



Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2014

for presentation at the 85th Annual General Meeting
to be held at the Synagogue on Sunday 11 January 2015 at 11:00am

Registered Charity No 236711

SOUTH
LONDON
Liberal
Synagogue

South London Liberal Synagogue

1 Prentis Road, Streatham, London SW16 1QB

T 020 8769 4787

office@southlondon.org

www.southlondon.org

(correct at time of going to press in December 2014)

MINISTER Rabbi Janet Darley BA, MPA, MA

VICE-PRESIDENTS Cedric Briscoe, Eve Samson,
Louise Freedman,
Clive Hershman, Paul Infield,

HONORARY OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN (vacant)

VICE-CHAIRMAN Louise Freedman

TREASURER William Cohen

SECRETARY Lianna Etkind

COUNCIL Alice Alphandary
Jacqueline Ashton
Alexander Clark
Nicholas Jones
Daniel Kirk
Gillian Walker

PROPERTY TRUSTEES (under review)

Derek Aarons and Michael Rich

RELIGION SCHOOL & TODDLER GROUP

HEAD TEACHER Jacqueline Ashton
Rabbi Janet Darley

ADMINISTRATOR Louise Cohen

TEACHING STAFF Jacqueline Ashton
Sarit Chen
Abigail Cohen
Adam Feuer
Matthew Feuer
Nicholas Jones
Lara Hart
Aviva Haylor
Elinor Haylor
Ella Palmer
Aisha Sharif

WHO'S WHO AT SLLS

Administrator Alex Wilding

Burial and Cremation Scheme

CO-ORDINATOR Louise Freedman

Eitz Chayim Memorial

CO-ORDINATOR Louise Freedman

Friends of Gesher

CHAIRMAN Harriet Neuberger

SECRETARY (vacant)

Librarian

Corinne Lever

Marriage Secretary

Gillian Walker

Additional Secretaries

Jeromé Freedman

Eve Samson

Members' Choir Director

Vince Daly

Membership

SECRETARY Louise Freedman

Rites & Practices

SECRETARY Louise Freedman

"South Circular"

EDITOR Louise Freedman

Security & Stewarding

Nicholas Jones

Stewarding

Ron Mortimer

AFFILIATE ASSOCIATIONS

Board of Deputies of British Jews: Representative Jeromé Freedman

Faiths Together in Lambeth

Lambeth Multi-Faith Action Group (LAMAG): Representative Karen Briscoe

Liberal Judaism: Representative Louise Freedman

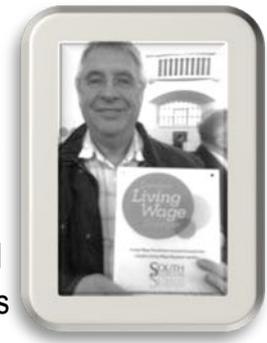
London Citizens: Representative Lianna Etkind

President's Year

At the AGM in January 2013, Philip Walker, our President, stepped up to become Chair as there were no candidates for the post. It was typical of his commitment to SLLS that he should do so.

Having taken this step, he was an engaged and active Chair, supporting us all and representing the congregation on many occasions: in May at the Lambeth Citizens Delegates Assembly, Philip received our Lambeth Citizens Award acknowledging SLLS becoming a Living Wage employer. In June, Philip took us on another of his legendary London Walks with a fascinating tour of the Limehouse district. It was a shock to us all when his ill health meant he had to resign as Chair in the summer. Sadly, he died on 8 October 2014.

Philip's energy, enthusiasm and generosity were part of making SLLS a happy inclusive community. He took the Chair when no one else would, but did not seek out the limelight. He was surprised to be told how highly he was valued, when a less modest man might have gathered that being elected President was a sign of the regard we all felt for him. His memory is a blessing.



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Vice Chairman's Report

Sadly, our President and Chairman Philip Walker became ill in the summer and had to stand down as Chairman, a role he had taken on at our last AGM since there were no candidates for the post, so it falls to me to write this report.

Under Philip's leadership and Janet's ministry, we have had a busy year. During the year we became the first Synagogue to be a Living Wage employer. Philip received the Living Wage plaque on our behalf and this is now displayed in the vestibule. Our Kolin Scroll spent the first part of the year undergoing loving repair with Soferet Avielah Barclay and was returned to us in June when we held a Siyyum Sefer Hatorah to welcome it back. Over 100 members including most of our Religion School (now renamed Geshet גשׁת) participated in the mitzvah of writing a torah scroll and we welcomed many visitors from the wider local community. The genesis of this project had begun during Eve Samson's chairmanship and we thank her for her endeavours to see this project through.

We are grateful to the numerous people who give of their time and energy to sustain the community. Our Council has been tremendous and is always supportive but William Cohen, our Treasurer, and Louise, his wife, put in a great deal of work ensuring that we are solvent (provided our members don't forget to pay their subscriptions!), produce our accounts and ensuring that gift aid forms are in order. As has been said before, this work is not glamorous but it is essential and very hard work. We thank Lianna Etkind, the Secretary and special thanks also are due to Alexander Clark who has stepped in as subscriptions secretary to ensure that members' accounts were sent out on time at the end of the year. We are also fortunate that Alex Wilding became our administrator during the year, in succession to Josephine Farr; these young women have worked tirelessly for our community and we thank them both. We also thank the Women's Society Alumni for continuing to pack and mail out South Circular and LJ Today.

Jackie Ashton and her team of teachers and helpers, with Louise Cohen as RS Administrator, run a thriving Religion School where the children love to come and parents support them; thanks to those parents who do door duty on a regular basis and who help in so many other ways. Thanks to Harriet Neuberger for her able chairmanship of FRS. The choir sing at special services under the direction of Vince Daly; we thank him too for everything he does for SLLS. We are fortunate to have many service leaders, whom Janet has thanked, and all the stewards under the leadership of Nick Jones. We thank Ron Mortimer, our security officer. We thank all the 'scene shifters' who prepare Kiddush, move tables, load the dishwasher, sweep the floor, talk to newcomers, encourage new members and do countless other jobs.

Louise Freedman

Rabbi's Report the year in review

The past year has, as usual, been busy. There have been new programmes and developments. I really can't believe that I have already completed six years as minister. Thanks go to the many people who worked so hard to plan and support these events. I especially thank Council members and Eve Samson who completed her term in January, and Philip Walker, who was chair for the rest of this year, and also the many community members of various ages who have worked so hard at so many activities.

We are fortunate to have three Ba'alei Tefillah who have taken services for us this year: Beverley Taylor, Paul Ashton and Peter Phillips as well as lay leaders Jeromé Freedman, Jane and Lara Hart, Philip Walker, Alice Alphandary and Simon and Lianna Etkind. In the coming year two more congregants, Nick Jones and Sara McConnell, will be attending the Ba'alei Tefillah course beginning January 2015.

We welcomed several Rabbinic Students to our pulpit: Peter Philips and Nathan Godleman shared a service, Robyn Ashworth-Steen preached at our annual Human Rights Shabbat in December and Naomi Goldman led a Jewish Renewal-style service for us in the summer. Last Autumn we were visited by Rabbi Yitz Husbands-Hankin from Oregon who led a service for us.

A real highlight of the year was our Siyyum Sefer Hatorah for our Kolin Scroll during the summer. We had over 100 people participate in the presence of many visitors.

And who could forget the weekend when we hosted about 75 enthusiastic LJY-Netzer young people for a sleep-over.

We welcomed a number of new members during the course of the year. We also remembered both members and family and friends of members through a number of memorial leaf dedication ceremonies.

We celebrated as our young people came of age (B'nei Mitzvah): Avigayil Ashton, Ben Dillin, Sarah Ish-Horowicz, Sam Vickers and Dena Wilson. In December Elinor Haylor, Abigail Cohen, Noah Vickers and Adam Feuer became Kabbalat Torah. We had an *aufruf* for Barrie and Mikaela before their wedding and another one for Harriet Neuberger and Claire Summers. And we had 80th birthday Kiddushim for Cedric Briscoe and Corinne Lever.

Our third year of Garden Shabbatot during the summer was as successful as in previous years. We held a Pride Seder this year and several special Shabbat services; one based on Yiddish Literature, a chanting service, and an Installation Service for our council members and officers. We continued our exploration of Jewish Communities around the world on fifth Fridays, looking, among others, at the Ukrainian Jewish community and learning how Chanukkah was celebrated around the world. These Shabbatot Kol Yisrael services offer a chance to learn about the history and current life of Jews in other communities.

We had some excellent festival services and a wonderful Purim Spiel. We held a cocktail party just before Passover to clean out our liquid chametz and we held a second night Communal Seder for Pesach and a Shavuot Seder.

We continue to have an active Facebook page, which again included daily thoughts from the beginning of Elul through Yom Kippur, and again daily thoughts during the Omer period. The number of people it reached grew as did the number who follow us on Twitter.

We also were involved with our neighbours. This was the fifth year of our HMD education project with Dunraven School. We have continued to be involved with London Citizens, expanding the Streatham City Safe Zone, working for a living wage and being recognised ourselves as a Living Wage employer.

Rabbi Janet Darley

Reports on Synagogue Activities

Religion School Team: Head *Jacqueline Ashton*, **Administrator** *Louise Cohen*
& **Adviser** *Rabbi Janet Darley*

Religion School and Little Stars Toddler Group have again had a busy and exciting year. We had the opportunity to try out the new Liberal Judaism Curriculum, with the children focusing on the life and teaching of Moses, and spent a term studying Torah and our Kolin Scroll in preparation for the return of the scroll. The commandment of writing a Torah Scroll once during your life was achieved by many children, and their parents, when they assisted Soferet Avielah Barclay to add the final letters at the Siyyum when the restored Kolin Scroll was returned to us.

We also experienced the combined theatrical talents of our children and their parents in teacher Sarit Wilson Chen's comical Purim play. Sarit spent many hours coaxing amazing performances from her actors and the result was enjoyed by the whole community.

This year also saw the start of a project to create our own Family Service Siddur. Our thanks to Rabbi Janet for her support and help with this. Kitah Daled and Hei, with the help of parents, led two of the family services and Kitah Vov led the community in prayer at the celebration service at the end of the year. This service was also our chance to say goodbye to two inspiring members of the Religion School staff Caleb Brohiri and Fae Clark who have both departed to pursue their studies. They will be greatly missed by their classes and members of the teaching staff and we wish them every success in the future.

Friends of Religion School *Harriet Neuberger, Chairman*

The religion school (now called Gesher) is an important part of our community; it is where our youngest members meet and learn, and also provides an opportunity for parents to meet each other and other members of SLLS. We aim to celebrate the synagogue not only as a house of learning and a house of prayer but also as a house of meeting. In this spirit the Friends have continued with regular coffee mornings throughout the year, new members of the community meeting parents whose children had been at Gesher for more years. We have also had a Chanukkah Kiddush, a Purim party with fancy dress and lots of games, and a more modest summer party due to the inclement weather. Every member of SLLS is a member of Friends of RS (now Friends of Gesher). If any member would like to get involved or just stay informed of our plans contact me on 07974359911 or harriet_travelling@yahoo.co.uk.

Torah Breakfasts *Alice Alphandary*

We expanded the range of adult education on offer this year by running a series of Torah breakfasts. Things got off to a good start when Rabbi Leah Jordan came to speak to us about Elisha Ben Abuyah, who rode through Jerusalem on a donkey on Yom Kippur - was he born bad or a radical of his day? Next, Hannah Weisfeld from Yachad came to talk to us about the "Sign on the Green Line" campaign which encourages Jewish organisations to use maps marking this. This revealed that, whether or not you supported the campaign, whichever choice of map you use would be making a political statement. We had a fascinating talk about gender and identity thanks to Anthony Phillips from Keshet. Finally we were lucky to be one of only two synagogues in the UK to be visited by Micky Gitzen, Executive Director of Israel Hofshit (Be Free Israel) and a New Israel Fund Human Rights Award winner.

Founded at the end of 2009, Israel Hofshit is the only Israeli grassroots movement whose mission is to promote freedom of religion and Jewish pluralism in Israel. And it's worth mentioning that everyone was well fed with Brick Lane bagels and pastries at the breakfasts!

Interfaith

We remain involved with the Lambeth Multi-Faith Action Group LAMAG, where Karen Briscoe has stepped up and joined the team. As a community we have joined with Faiths Together in Lambeth (FTiL) in a number of ways over the year. For the fourth year, Rabbi Janet spoke at an Iftar at Hyderi Mosque accompanied by several SLLS members. We are always warmly welcomed there. Last November we participated in an Interfaith Event in Tooting and in July we offered Klezmer Klub in concert for the Streatham Festival.

Members' Choir *Vince Daly, Choir Director*

A volunteer choir of SLLS members and friends provided musical support for services throughout the year. The year began with High Holyday Services: Selichot, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur – over twelve hours of services, with a large amount of sung prayers. Non-member Simon Frais and several regular members of the choir bravely took on some solo pieces; supportive accompaniment on the SLLS organ by a professional musician (Barry Eaton) helped sustain the quality of singing. During the course of the year, the choir's main contribution was to support the Shabbat morning service once per month. On some occasions this coincided with special events such as bar/bat-mitzvah services where visitors were present in substantial numbers. Here, the quality and enthusiasm of the choir's singing helped to present SLLS in a good light, for example at the special Siyyum Sefer Hatorah service that welcomed back the restored Kolin scroll. Visitors and members alike have frequently expressed their delight in the choir's contribution to services. The choir is open to any SLLS members and friends who enjoy communal singing. Rehearsals take place before the monthly choral service and also in the run up to the High Holy Days. There are no auditions and no assumption that choir members are all available every time the choir sings. A handful of new singers joined the choir during the year; more new faces are always welcome.

Adult Education *Rabbi Janet Darley*

Our Access to Judaism and beginning Hebrew classes continued throughout the year on Wednesday nights. Our other adult education this year has been primarily through our Shabbat Kol Yisrael series which introduces us to the history, development and current growth of Jewish communities in other countries and text studies in lieu of sermons at some services. We also started regular Torah breakfasts before Shabbat services.

"Due South" *Corinne Lever, Organiser*

Due South continues to flourish owing to the willingness of members to suggest ideas and contribute to meetings. Lionel Phillips again hosted a session, at which he gave an illustrated talk, "Working with Woodwind Instruments". Irving Lee continued his talk about distilling, and his own part in it, at the Lee residence. We once again enjoyed a shared lunch at Freha Pritchard's bungalow in July, at which Rabbi Janet spoke about rabbis' sermons at the outbreak of World War One. Before this, in June, we had partaken of our Annual Lunch at the usual venue, Croydon Park Hotel. It would be lovely to welcome more Synagogue members to our meetings: Due South is open to all and not exclusive to those who live "due south".

South Circular *Editor, Louise Freedman*

South Circular is published eleven times each year and particularly for our more isolated members is an important link with SLLS, along with the telephone chats from Elizabeth Cove. We welcome news, views, photographs and articles. Please share your news with us because we cannot print what you do not tell us!

Desmond Marks Library *Corinne Lever, Librarian*

I encourage all members to use our well-stocked library. The catalogue is available on our website, so why not have a browse?

E-communication *Zach Ashton*

Our website has been a key tool for communicating with our members and friends. It contains a calendar of current events, and an e-version of our South Circular newsletter. Additionally you can find a gallery of pictures of different Synagogue events and the Desmond Marks Library catalogue is on line. We now have several members contributing to our Facebook and Twitter pages. You can find details of current events and, in the month of Elul, Rabbi Janet and members of the community posted daily reflections leading up to the High Holy Days. If you have any comments or suggestions please contact our administrator or leave details in the Synagogue office.

Board of Deputies of British Jews *Jeromé Freedman*

The current Triennial Session of the Board will conclude on 31st May 2015 and member congregations and organisations will be electing their Deputies to take up office on 1st June. The elections of the Board's new Honorary Officers, being the president, three vice presidents and the treasurer, will be by the current Deputies and will be held next May and the election of members of the Divisional Boards will be held in July. SLLS will be electing its own Deputy to serve for three years until May 2018 at its forthcoming AGM.

In July 2013, the Board adopted a formal Code of Conduct that was incorporated into the Constitution. The intention was to record formally the standard of conduct expected from Deputies and behaviour which is not acceptable and to provide a framework to address any departure from these standards. This Code was formally ratified after an introductory period of twelve months.

In May 2014, the Board announced that it had appointed Gillian Merron as its Chief Executive (the Director General). Until then, Gillian had been a member of Liberal Judaism's Board of National Officers and had served as an MP for Lincoln for 13 years to 2010 being appointed a Senior Government Whip and a Minister of State in the last Labour Government. Gillian has been an active member of LJ's Lincolnshire Jewish Community and is proving to be a valuable asset at the Board of Deputies.

Chaplaincy and caring

Until leaving in July for a year in Israel, Peter Philips continued as voluntary Jewish Chaplain at Kings College Hospital, visiting members and non-members when called upon to do so. He also provided educational materials about Judaism and participated in the annual Chanukkah Candle lighting at the hospital. We are fortunate that Elizabeth Cove is now leading Keeping in Touch for us and contacting elderly and unwell congregants.

South London Liberal Synagogue

Council's Report

Registered Charity No 236711

The Council presents its report together with the Financial Statements of the Synagogue for the year ended 31 August 2014. These Financial Statements are not statutorily required to be audited and have been independently examined by Ūna Nī Dhōnaill, whose report appears below.

Origin, objectives and principal aims and activities of the charity

The Synagogue was formed in 1929 and has the following purpose:

to advance Liberal Judaism by teaching and practice, in particular by means of:

- (a) providing religious education for children and adults and providing facilities and teaching leading to *Bar Mitzvah* or *Bat Mitzvah* and *Kabbalat Torah* (Confirmation);
- (b) providing and maintaining a place for public religious worship and providing, arranging and conducting religious services;
- (c) providing facilities for the solemnisation of marriages and for burials and cremations.

Council

The Council members who served during the year are as follows: Philip Walker (Chairman), Lianna Etkind (Hon Secretary), William Cohen (Treasurer), Louise Freedman (Vice-Chairman), Alice Alphandary, Barrie Cavalier-Hirth (part year), Mikaela Cavalier-Hirth (part year), Nicholas Jones, Daniel Kirk and Peter Phillips,

Membership – all categories

Total at 31 August 2014: 269 (2013: 272), which included 5 Honorary Members and 26 Friends.

New Members We welcomed Barrie Cavalier-Hirth, Abigail Cohen, Joshua Elboim, Elinor Haylor, Kirsty Healey, Rafeek Karam, Diane Miller-Ingham, Rix Payne, Enid Rubenstein, Noah Vickers, Lucie Velaise and Benjamin Walker.

Friends of SLLS We welcomed Bernice Owusu, Sara McConnell, Murat Soncul and Carlos Tavares.

Deaths We record with sorrow the deaths of Philip Rose, Aubrey Silverstein and Judith Kelly.

Marriages and Blessings Barrie with Mikaela Cavalier-Hirth and Harriet Neuberger with Claire Summers.

Births Mazal tov and welcome to: Miriam Derry Earnshaw, daughter of Maya Jaffe and Richard Earnshaw; Reuben Lucas Kirk, son of Daniel and Michelle Kirk and Axel William Elboim, son of Joshua and Louise Elboim.

Review of the activities

A review of the activities of the Synagogue is contained in the Chairman's Report on page 4 and in the reports on Synagogue activities on pages 5 and 6 and on page 15 onwards.

Reserves policy

The Charity's principal activities are detailed above.

1. The present reserve level is considered realistic in order to maintain liquid reserves to cover the Synagogue's day to day activities.
2. At each annual Budget meeting, a review of the current level of reserves will be undertaken against Budget predictions.

At 31 August 2014 Unrestricted Funds amounted to £124,255 (2013: £143,905). Total funds stood at £169,336 (2013: £184,950).

Risk management

Council has decided not to prepare a formal risk review report. However, it will continue to review areas of potential risk. The principal financial risks identified in the short to medium term are as follows:

- The possible need for further repairs to the Synagogue building,
- Inflation, which is not easily offset by increased subscriptions,
- A continuing imbalance between income and expenditure.

Statement of Council's responsibilities

Company law requires the Council to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those Financial Statements, Council is required to:

- (i) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- (ii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- (iii) prepare the Financial Statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

Council is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Synagogue. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Synagogue and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Louise Freedman, Vice Chairman

PLEASE DON'T FORGET US IN YOUR WILL

*You have supported the SLLS during your lifetime;
why not in your Will for future generations?*

LEGACIES MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

*By leaving a bequest to SLLS you will support
the future of Liberal Judaism in South London.*



For further information please contact
office@southlondon.org or 020 8769 4787

South London Liberal Synagogue

Independent Examiner's Report to the Synagogue Council

I report on the accounts of the South London Liberal Synagogue for the year ended 31 August 2014, which are set out on pages 10 – 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

examine the accounts (under Section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act), to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Úna Ní Dhónaill
15 Hillbury Road
London
SW17 8JT

Date: 5 November 2014

South London Liberal Synagogue

Statement of Financial Activities

Income and Expenditure for the period 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total 2014 £	Total 2013 £
Incoming Resources					
Subscriptions	53,172	-	-	53,172	62,250
Donations/Legacies	5,114	1,745	-	6,859	12,641
Gift Aid repayment	12,383	-	-	12,383	9,034
Appeals income	-	5,737	-	5,737	6,258
Hire of hall	3,560	-	-	3,560	3,669
Fundraising income	733	-	-	733	3,124
Rabbi's Pension	-	2,010	-	2,010	1,950
Burial and Cremation Fees	-	1,454	-	1,454	1,340
Adult Education income	509	-	-	509	310
Bank interest	48	-	-	48	59
Total Incoming Resources	75,519	10,946	-	86,465	100,635
Resources Expended					
Rabbinic costs	23,902	1,425	-	25,327	25,060
Staff costs (not inc. Rabbi)	18,007	-	-	18,007	18,178
Building maintenance	5,967	4,105	-	10,072	14,427
Affiliation fees	14,088	-	-	14,088	12,296
Education	8,948	-	-	8,948	9,143
Insurance	6,827	-	-	6,827	6,187
Utilities	6,358	-	-	6,358	6,097
Management and administration	8,221	-	-	8,221	5,170
Depreciation	3,544	-	-	3,544	3,560
Burial and Cremation Costs	-	-	-	-	1,348
Scroll Repair	(693)	1,380	-	687	2,038
Total Resources Expended	95,169	6,910	-	102,079	103,504
Net Movement in Funds	£(19,650)	£4,036	-	£(15,614)	£(2,869)
Funds brought forward at 1 September 2013	143,905	36,045	5,000	184,950	187,819
Funds carried forward at 31 August 2014	124,255	40,081	5,000	169,336	184,950

South London Liberal Synagogue

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2014

	Note	£	2014 £	£	2013 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	2		132,364		135,908
Current assets					
Stock	3	296		261	
Debtors		953		350	
Cash at bank and in hand	4	42,535		54,847	
Net current assets			43,784		55,458
Current Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5		(6,812)		(6,416)
Total assets less current liabilities			£169,336		£184,950
Income funds					
Restricted funds	6	40,081		36,045	
Designated funds		5,000		5,000	
Unrestricted funds		124,255		143,905	
TOTAL FUNDS			£169,336		£184,950

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2014

1. The principal accounting policies adopted by the charity are described below. They have been applied consistently throughout the period.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

INCOMING RESOURCES

All Incoming Resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the monies are received.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred.

2. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of assets to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives as follows:-

Freehold building & improvements - 2% on cost

Furniture & equipment - 25% on net book value

Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property & Improvements £	Organ £	Furniture & Equipment £	Total £
Cost at 31 August 2013	174,676	6,995	16,820	198,491
Depreciation at 31 August 2013	(38,966)	(6,995)	(16,622)	(62,583)
Charge for the year	(3,494)	-	(50)	(3,544)
Net book value at 31 August 2014	£132,216	-	£148	£132,364
Net book value at 31 August 2013	£135,710	-	£198	£135,908

3. Stock

	2014 £	2013 £
Stock of books for resale	135	106
Showcase Stock	161	155
	<u>296</u>	<u>261</u>

4. Cash at Bank and in hand at 31 August 2014

	£
HSBC General	6,624
CAF General	3,505
CAF Gold	15,145
CAF Burial and Cremation	17,261
Balance at 31.08.2014	<u>42,535</u>

5. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year: Creditors comprise of monies received in respect of Board of Deputies Levy £2,900 which was paid after year end, balance for the entrance refurbishment £1,855 and operating creditors outstanding £2,057.

6. Restricted Funds

	at 31.08.2014 £	at 31.08.2013 £
John Rich Memorial Fund	2,386	2,386
Burial and Cremation Fund	17,730	16,276
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund	2,918	2,098
Rabbi's Pension	7,862	6,352
Building Fund	7,661	6,029
Grants	1,524	1,524
Archivist/Scrolls	-	1,380
	<u>40,081</u>	<u>36,045</u>

SLLS Financial Projection 2014 – 2015

Income	£		£
Subscriptions	55,000		
Donations/Legacies	5,000		
Gift Aid repayment	10,000		
Appeals Income	6,000		
Hire of Hall	3,600		
		Etz Chayim (Leaf Sales)	300
		Chevra	700
		HHD Tickets	540
			<u>1,540</u>
Fundraising Income	1,540		
Burial & Cremation Fees	1,500		
Adult Education	400		
Bank Interest	40		
Total Income	<u>£83,080</u>		
Expenses			
Rabbinic Costs (inc. NI)	25,300		
Staff Costs	19,000	Administrator & Cleaners + NI	
Building Maintenance	10,000		
		London Citizens	600
		Board of Deputies	500
		Liberal Judaism	10,000
			<u>11,100</u>
Affiliation Fees	11,100	Teachers' pay+NI+Gesher	
Education	9,500		
Insurance	7,000	Electricity	1,700
		Gas	3,750
		Telephone	1,200
		Water	950
			<u>7,600</u>
Utilities	7,600		
		Admin+post+misc	5,800
		Printing	2,200
			<u>8,000</u>
Management & Administration	8,000		
Depreciation	3,500		
Total Expenditure	<u>£101,000</u>		
Net Deficit			<u>(£17,920)</u>

SOUTH LONDON Liberal Synagogue SOUTH LONDON LIBERAL SYNAGOGUE IS A PROUD CONSTITUENT OF LIBERAL JUDAISM WHICH IS PART OF THE WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM (EUROPEAN UNION) AND IS A SUPPORTER OF THE LEO BAECK COLLEGE.

Liberal Judaism affirms the dynamic, developing character of our Jewish religious tradition. Judaism has never stood still. Its history is a history of continuity and change. Questioning and questioning, Liberal Judaism is an authentic and modern form of Judaism, rooted in a deep and meaningful engagement with Jewish texts, values, culture and history. It is a movement with a sense of purpose, engaged in community life, study, spirituality and social action. It believes in personal freedom and responsibility and the shared and collective bonds that unite us as Jewish people and members of humanity. Liberal Judaism welcomes those who grew up as Jewish and those who, later in life, have become accepted into Judaism. Liberal Judaism is inclusive and egalitarian, giving equal status within Judaism to those traditionally excluded, helping all its members to embark on their personal Jewish journeys. Liberal Judaism should be a positive, joyous and active part of our members' lives, to be used to enrich their relationships with those around them.  www.liberaljudaism.org/

The World Union for Progressive Judaism's over 1,200 congregations around the world – both large and small, some established and others just starting – currently affiliate with Reform, Progressive, Liberal or Reconstructionist Judaism. With an estimated 1.8 million members in 45 countries, the liberal streams of Judaism represent a global community with diverse practices but a similar goal: a contemporary, creative expression of Jewish spiritual and cultural identity that is rooted in our rich Jewish traditions. 

The European Union of the World Union, based in London, focuses particularly on the challenges of continental Europe where the increasing Jewish population now provides enormous potential for growth. Communities destroyed during the Nazi period are re-emerging and rebuilding themselves from both survivors who returned after the Second World War and immigrants from the Former Soviet Union, many of whom are settling in Germany where there are now 18 congregations and many education programs. Two rabbinical seminaries, in Germany and the Netherlands, are complementing the work of the Leo Baeck College in the UK in training rabbis for Europe.

Outside the United Kingdom there are substantial congregations in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland, as well as smaller ones in the Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Spain and Sweden. A well-organized European Union Beit Din provides a coherent structure for emerging communities and offers a modus vivendi for individuals and for new groups living under difficult circumstances particularly in former Communist countries. www.eupj.org/

Leo Baeck College is unique – providing information, education and Rabbinic training for Judaism in the 21st century as well as offering educational consultancy, development of community leaders, providing access to Jewish learning for all and working with those of other religions to advance understanding and respect. 

The college library, second to none, is a resource not only for its students, but for the whole community. Reader's tickets are available to those interested. Its resource centre is well-stocked with teaching resources to support RS teachers.

With the appointment of Rabbi Dr Deborah Kahn-Harris as its Principal and the redesign of its Rabbinic Curriculum, LBC is well-placed to continue its leadership role in the 21st Century. www.lbc.ac.uk/

London Citizens *Lianna Etkind*

Through our membership of London Citizens, we have this year worked with other civil society organisations. Rabbi Janet has been working with Lambeth Council developing and planning delivery of their Financial Resilience Strategy, which aims among other things to help Lambeth residents avoid falling into the hands of payday loans companies. Janet spoke at the Launch Event for this. We attended both the Lambeth Citizens Delegates' Assembly at St Gabriel's College and the Election Assembly at St John's Waterloo, where together with other member institutions we questioned the council candidates on whether they'd support our demands if elected. We continued to participate in the successful Living Wage campaign: I represented SLLS at a Living Wage event in Canary Wharf; Rabbi Janet and I attended a Living Wage action in Whitehall to encourage more Government departments to pay all their employees a living wage and we participated in a Living Wage Action at John Lewis, which does not yet pay its cleaners a living wage. Finally, we were proud to become a Living Wage employer: President Philip Walker received our Living Wage plaque at the Accountability Assembly, which was co-chaired by Rabbi Janet and where Vince Daly and Helen Victor sang in Citizens' Choir. As a member of London Citizens, all SLLS members are entitled to free two-day training in community organising run by London Citizens, so get in touch if you are interested in taking this up - I can highly recommend it.

Lambeth Holocaust Memorial Day and Education Project

For a fifth year we were actively involved in planning the Lambeth HMD ceremony in January and once again hosted and were key in delivering the Holocaust Education project with Dunraven School. This project welcomes pupils in to watch a film about German rescuers, hear testimony of someone who is a survivor, a hidden child or someone who came on the Kindertransport. This is followed by break-out sessions with trained facilitators in which pupils engage in activities allowing them to process what they have heard, engage with the year's theme and think about the dangers signs to watch out for which can lead a society down the path to genocide as well as to think about the ways they can act to prevent victimization even in small ways. The session concludes with the year's HMD film and with a candle-lighting service. Lianna Etkind was the anchor person for the day's events. A number of our members participated as facilitators for this project: Jeromé and Louise Freedman, Philip and Gill Walker, Lou Cohen and Lara Hart. We were also joined by Anne Sassoon, David Wirth from Leigham Court Road and Barbara Wilson, who is a co-chair of Lambeth Citizens.

Jewish Walks

In June, Philip took us on another of his legendary London Walks with a fascinating tour of the Limehouse district and we continue to enjoy the ongoing display of late C19th and early C20th Jewish photographs in the Lily Montagu Hall.

School visits

This year approximately 20 schools visited the synagogue and 10 schools were visited who couldn't arrange visits to us. Most visits this year were covered by Lara Hart both at the synagogue and the visits out to schools, with some taken by the Rabbi Janet, Jeromé and Louise. Several of the schools came for more than one visit with different year groups ranging from Year 2 to Year 7. If you are able to spare some time to show a school party around, please get in touch with the SLLS office.



Elizabeth Cove

Keeping in Touch

I continue to be in touch by telephone with members who are ill or unable to get to Synagogue for reasons of distance or infirmity. Please contact me through the SLLS office if you would appreciate a telephone call or other contact with the Synagogue.

With best wishes, Elizabeth

The Synagogue facilities are available for hire for private functions at competitive rates and the Lily Montagu Hall can seat up to 100 people.

To discuss your needs, contact the synagogue office on 020 8769 4787 or email office@southlondon.org



The Lily Montagu Hall dressed for a function.



Our beautiful '**Eitz Chayim**' (*Tree of Life*) Memorial, donated by the family of Sidney Sinclair z"l, a former chairman, is located prominently towards the front of the Synagogue Sanctuary and its leaves record the names and dates of past family and friends. For a modest contribution, a leaf inscribed with the name of your loved one could be added to this permanent memorial. Remembering the departed is ingrained in Jewish tradition.

Further information from the SLLS Office.

WHO ARE WE AT SOUTH LONDON LIBERAL SYNAGOGUE?

South London Liberal Synagogue includes **all sorts of people**: some from Jewish families, some from mixed Jewish / non-Jewish families, and some from diverse backgrounds who have become Jews by choice. Our synagogue is a proud constituent of Liberal Judaism, our national movement, and part of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. Along with other LJ congregations, we consider as Jewish anyone who was raised as a Jew or who has converted under the auspices of any recognized authority in this country or abroad.

Many SLLS members have non-Jewish partners whom we also welcome. They maintain their connections with their own cultures and traditions but at the same time they make a valued contribution to our community. Many will have children in Geshher (Religion School) and are welcome to become involved with Religion School and other synagogue activities. Any Jewish person may become a member of SLLS regardless of gender, sexual orientation or marital status. We also **welcome all individuals** who are sincerely interested in converting to Judaism and who therefore want to learn more about Jewish life and religion. We have a membership category of “**Friend of SLLS**” for those who are not eligible for full membership. A synagogue is more than a house of worship – it is a community. The word synagogue – **beit Knesset** in Hebrew – means a **house of meeting**.

COMMUNITY LIFE AT SLLS INCLUDES:

SERVICES, BOTH EVENING AND MORNING, ON SABBATHS, HIGH HOLYDAYS AND ON ALL FESTIVALS

1st Friday Early-Bird Chavurah (Bring & Share meal) with guitar music at 6:30pm

2nd Saturday Family-Shabbat Service for **GESHER גשר** pupils & members at 11:00am

3rd Friday Kabbalat Shabbat and Study Session at 7:30pm

Regular Torah Breakfasts at 10:00am

4th Saturday Choral Service at 11:00am

GESHER גשר (*Religion School*) – for children ages 5 – 15 Saturday 9:45am – 12:30pm

Pupils are prepared for *Bar / Bat Mitzvah* and *Kabbalat Torah*

Little Stars Toddler Group meets on Saturdays during **GESHER גשר** term time at 10:00am

Adult Education, Hebrew and Access to Judaism classes

FRIENDS OF GESHER גשר

CHEVRA Social Group

ADULT EDUCATION

SOCIAL ACTION

↓DUE SOUTH↓ discussion group

Interfaith programmes with other local communities

Pastoral care, visiting and other types of support

Visitors are always welcome.

For more details, contact the Synagogue office: 020 8769 4787

or visit the Synagogue's website: www.southlondon.org

(Full details of all activities appear in our monthly **South Circular** and on our Website)

5775 – 5779

Notable Jewish Dates

2014 – 2019

FESTIVAL	2014/2015 5775	2015/2016 5776	2016/2017 5777	2017/2018 5778	2018/2019 5779
ROSH HA-SHANAH <i>1 Tishri</i>	Thursday 25 September	Monday 14 September	Monday 3 October	Thursday 21 September	Monday 10 September
YOM KIPPUR <i>10 Tishri</i>	Saturday 4 October	Wednesday 23 September	Wednesday 12 October	Saturday 30 September	Wednesday 19 September
1ST DAY SUKKOT <i>15 Tishri</i>	Thursday 9 October	Monday 28 September	Monday 17 October	Thursday 5 October	Monday 24 September
SHEMINI ATZERET / SIMCHAT TORAH * <i>22 Tishri</i>	Thursday 16 October	Monday 5 October	Monday 24 October	Thursday 12 October	Monday 1 October
1ST DAY CHANUKKAH <i>25 Kislev</i>	Thursday 17 December	Monday 7 December	Sunday 25 December	Wednesday 13 December	Monday 3 December
TU BI-SH'VAT <i>15 Shevat</i>	Wednesday 4 February	Monday 25 January	Saturday 11 February	Wednesday 31 January	Monday 21 January
PURIM <i>14 Adar</i>	Thursday 5 March	Thursday 24 March	Sunday 12 March	Thursday 1 March	Thursday 21 March
1ST DAY PESACH <i>15 Nisan</i>	Saturday 4 April	Saturday 23 April	Tuesday 11 April	Saturday 31 March	Saturday 20 April
7TH DAY PESACH <i>21 Nisan</i>	Friday 10 April	Friday 29 April	Monday 17 April	Friday 6 April	Friday 26 April
YOM HA-SHO'AH <i>generally 27 Nisan</i>	Thursday 16 April	Thursday 5 May	Monday 24 April (28 Nisan)	Thursday 12 April	Thursday 2 May
YOM HA-ATZ'MA'UT <i>generally 5 Iyar</i>	Thursday 23 April	Thursday 12 May	Tuesday 2 May (6 Iyar)	Thursday 19 April	Thursday 9 May (4 Iyar)
SHAVU'OT <i>6 Sivan</i>	Sunday 24 May	Sunday 12 June	Wednesday 31 May	Sunday 20 May	Sunday 9 June
TISH'AH B'AV <i>9 Av</i>	Sunday 26 July (10 Av)	Sunday 14 August (10 Av)	Tuesday 1 August	Sunday 22 July (10 Av)	Sunday 11 August (10 Av)
S'LICHOT (night of)	Saturday 5 September	Saturday 24 September	Saturday 16 September	Saturday 1 September	Saturday 21 September

* The Jewish festivals run from sunset (as with Shabbat, which begins on Friday evening).
The dates above refer to the days of festivals.

* Most Progressive Jews in the Diaspora observe the eighth day of Sukkot as Simchat Torah,
some may follow the orthodox practice and instead observe the next day

SLLS (Registered Charity No 236711) is a proud constituent of Liberal Judaism, part of the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

liberal judaism

