

GORGEOUS GARDENS

Around the Association we take huge pride in our gardens - and they have been looking stunning. This year we have reviewed our plant choices picking more drought resistant perennial plants, along with some seasonal plants for all year round colour.



FESTIVE TIMES

YOM TOV TIMES 2021

ROSH HASHANAH

Festival begins Monday 6 September at 7.21pm
Festival ends Wednesday 8 September at 8.19pm

YOM KIPPUR

Fast begins Wednesday 15 September at 7.01pm
Festival ends Thursday 16 September at 8.00pm

SUCCOT

Festival begins Monday 20 September at 6.52pm
Festival ends Wednesday 22 September at 7.46pm

SHEMINI ATZERET AND SIMCHAT TORAH

Festival begins Monday 27 September at 6.35pm
Festival ends Wednesday 29 September at 7.30pm



jLiving – Leading the Jewish community in providing affordable, secure, welcoming accommodation, including associated services for those aspiring to live independently.

FESTIVAL OPENING HOURS

Wishing all our tenants and their families a very happy and healthy New Year from all the staff at jLiving

WINTER WORKING HOURS

We will not be working over Rosh Hashana - from 2pm on Monday 6 and all day Tuesday 7 and Wednesday 8 September.

We will not be working over Yom Kippur from 2pm on Wednesday 15 and all day Thursday 16 September.

We will not be working over Succot - from 2pm on Monday 20 and all day Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 September.

We will not be working on Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah from 2pm on Monday 27 and all day Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 September.

Chag Sameach!

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Enabling Independent Living

Winter Newsletter
September 2021
jliving.org.uk

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

It is incredible to think that we are already in the last quarter of 2021 as we approach the Chaggim once more. I can only hope that we may all be able to observe and enjoy the special days in more of the manner that we are used to and can once again be with family and friends at this most special time of the year. Sadly, I know that for many of you who have friends and family overseas you may have to wait a little longer for your reunions, however one thing that has emerged from the pandemic is that I am sure we can all be classed as new experts in the use of Zoom, Teams and FaceTime, all of which enable us to stay in touch.

I hope that you enjoy reading the round-up of news and information and our plans as we all move forward and hopefully back to a sense of normality.

I hope that by the time this newsletter reaches you, you will have had the opportunity to look at our new website at www.jliving.org.uk, a project that we have been working on since the beginning of the year. We hope that you like our refreshed look and will enjoy reading our updates and news stories in the coming months. IT has been just one of our many priorities during the lockdown periods and we are also delighted that we have finally moved into the 21st Century and upgraded our operating systems within Head

Office and across the Scheme offices. The next part of the programme will see us introducing a new housing management system to integrate tenancy management, rent accounting, compliance and repairs and we hope to have this up and running by mid-2022.

As we continue to fully adopt the new Code of Governance, in the coming months we will be reintroducing our former 'Adopt a Block' project for Board and some Subcommittee members. This will enable our non-executives to become familiar with a particular housing Scheme and its tenants and staff. This is not to replace any of the existing procedures that we currently have in place such as the Complaints Procedure or the procedure for reporting repairs, nor will it replace any of the roles currently undertaken by paid staff but will serve as another link between the Association and its tenants and leaseholders. Our members are looking forward to meeting you following the festivals and holidays and I know that you will make them very welcome.

On a final note, I would again like to thank you for your support, integrity and resilience through what has been one of the most challenging periods that any of us can remember. Let us all stay safe as we move towards the end of the year, by looking after ourselves and each other.

With best wishes

Jane Goodman
CEO

NEW VOLUNTEERS JOIN JLIVING

Following a successful recruitment drive we are delighted to announce that we have been joined by four new Subcommittee members and two new Board Members who all bring with them a wealth of experience and skills which will complement those of our current Board and Subcommittee members.

Joe Carlebach has joined the Housing Ops Subcommittee and Jonathan Seager has joined the Property Subcommittee. The Finance and Audit Subcommittee has been joined by two new faces: Robert Spain and Benji Fruhman. Meanwhile, Eva Greenspan and Emily Benedek have joined the Board.

CEO Jane Goodman said: "These new additions to our Board and Committees place us in an even stronger position to be able to deliver on our plans for the organisation and realise our ambitions for growth. Thank you to all of our volunteers for volunteering at jLiving - we really appreciate the time and effort you give us."



FULL SERVICE HAS BEEN RESUMED

Following the lifting of restrictions and the easing out of lockdown, we are thrilled to be able to tell you that our planned Major Works and full Repairs service have resumed.

Repairs

Throughout lockdown the Repairs team had only been doing urgent and high priority work, but we are now starting to work through the backlog of non-essential work built up during the pandemic. Please be patient with us as this may take some time but we will be with you shortly if you have reported a non-essential repair.

Planned Major Works

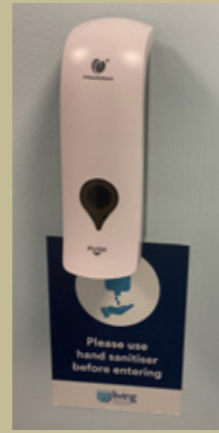
Top of the to do list is carrying out the modernisation of both lifts at Maitland Joseph House, replacing the heating system at Shine House and updating the windows at The Martins along with some roofing repair work at several Schemes.

We are also starting to look at restarting our kitchen and bathroom project again and have begun the lengthy process required to procure new contractors to undertake the kitchen, bathroom, and fire safety work.

Watch this space for more information coming soon!

HAND SANITISERS

Despite the relaxation of government guidelines regarding staying safe from Covid-19 and the opening of communal lounges, we can reassure everyone that the hand sanitiser stations are staying and will not be removed.



PLEASE HELP US ALL STAY SAFE

If you are unwell and expecting a visit from a member of staff or a contractor, please advise your Housing Manager as soon as you can to rearrange your appointment for a suitable safe date - and we will do the same for you.

Please always follow current Government guidelines.

NEW STAFF

Since our last newsletter went to print we are delighted to have welcomed two new members of staff to the Association.

HOUSING

Ravi Persaud joined the Housing team in May 2021 as Housing Manager at Young Court; Ravi has a wealth of experience in community alarms and out of hours response for various organisations.

PROPERTY

In July 2021 Patrick Campbell joined the property team as Repairs Coordinator with over 20 years' experience in the Customer Service / Property Services industry. **Welcome!**



Ravi Persaud



Patrick Campbell

FIRE, FIRE!

Please help us to keep everyone safe. We have many, thankfully mostly false, fire alarms across the Association most of which, frustratingly, are caused by cooking and can therefore be prevented!

Cooking safely

- Make sure saucepan handles don't stick out - so they don't get knocked off the stove
- Take care if you're wearing loose clothing - they can easily catch fire
- Keep tea towels and cloths away from the cooker and hob
- Double check the cooker is off when you've finished cooking
- Take care if you need to leave the kitchen while cooking, take pans off the heat or turn them down to avoid risk
- Keep the oven, hob and grill clean and in good working order. A build-up of fat and grease can easily ignite a fire.



Deep fat frying

Take care when cooking with hot oil - it sets alight easily:

- Make sure food is dry before putting it in hot oil, so it doesn't splash.
- If the oil starts to smoke - it's too hot. Turn off the heat and leave it to cool.
- Use a thermostat controlled electric deep fat fryer. They can't overheat.

What to do if a pan catches fire:

- Don't take any risks. Turn off the heat if it is safe to do so. Never throw water over it.
- Don't tackle the fire yourself - Get Out, Stay Out, Call 999.

Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service has published these leaflets offering cooking safety advice please take a look.

<https://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/Assets/1/Dirty%20Grills%20Kill%20A%20single.pdf>

<https://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/Assets/1/Chip%20Pan%20Safety%20general%20A%20leaflet.pdf>



FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT WORK

We are continuing to work with fire risk assessors and follow their guidance in line with the latest regulations and up and coming changes.



With the relaxation of Covid rules we will be re-starting these works on a priority basis such as fire door remedial works.

KNOW WHAT TO DO IN A FIRE - PLAN YOUR ESCAPE

Have your circumstances changed recently and have you updated your personal evacuation plan with your Housing Manager?

You can do this in person or fully socially distanced by telephone, and it is particularly relevant if your health or personal circumstances have changed recently.

Make an escape plan and practise it regularly to make sure you know how to get out safely in the event of a fire. The best route is the normal one you use to get in and out of your home.

Remember to plan a second route in case the first one is blocked, and never store anything in communal areas as items can block your escape route and be a fire risk.

Also remember that our Fire Evacuation Policy is on the back of your flat front doors or very close by.



RECIPE

Lekach (Honey & Spice Cake)

Honey Cake is the traditional sweet treat many Jews eat on Rosh Hashanah, aka Jewish New Year, honey symbolises our hopes for sweetness in the year to come.

This honey cake recipe is delicious and is even better made in advance - why not give it a go.

Ingredients:

- 200g plain flour
- 150g superfine caster sugar
- 1 level teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 level teaspoon mixed spice
- 250g clear honey
- 100 ml cooking oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 level teaspoon bicarbonate of soda dissolved in 100ml of orange juice
- 50g chopped walnuts

Method:

Mix the flour, sugar and spices together. Make a well in the centre and add the honey, oil and eggs.

Beat well together until smooth.

Dissolve the baking soda in orange juice and add the chopped walnuts and add to the cake mixture.

Line your tin 25x20x5cm with greaseproof paper and pour in the mixture.

Bake either on Gas mark 3 or electric 325°F / 170°C for 1¼ hours or until firm to the touch. Cool and when quite cold, foil wrap and if possible, leave for one week before using as it improves with keeping.

