

Good morning,

Never thought when I sent out my first email I would still be doing this.... all these weeks later!

We are now in our 11th week of self-isolation...the 12^h since the two Synagogues closed their doors!

Please feel free to forward this email to your family and friends.

Please don't feel you have to agree with what that I write! Feedback (+ or-) always welcome!

So here are my observations over the past week?

Monday 1st June marked a move to a new stage in the coronavirus pandemic, with easing of lockdown restrictions! It's now up to the public to do the "right thing!"...still be vigilant! Reason and common sense are more important than ever now!

Guess you all know the significance of today's date? 53 years ago today, saw the start of the 6-Day War... possibly the shortest war in history. The Israeli success was the result of a well-prepared and enacted strategy.

Didn't know that the world's oldest man, aged 112, Bob Weighton was born in Hull in 1908! He lived in Alton, Hampshire.

A lovely gesture from the Rabbi... a surprise package in the post for Shavuot! Thank you Rabbi, on behalf of all who received the iced coffee chocolate!

Never seen so many volunteers! Just hope JNF, MDA, WIZO, HHC and HJCC get volunteers as well!

There was violence and destruction across America, in response to the "racist" death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. His killing by a policeman, does not justify the rioting and looting! As Covid-19 has shown...**neighbourliness**, rather than confrontation should be the new "normal!"

Are white supremacists creating the chaos? As Phil Rosenberg, Director of Public Affairs at the BoD of British Jews wrote in the JC, "Time to stand alongside our black friends and neighbours." Indecent police yes, but also indecent rioters! The reaction right will not right the wrong? Why cause all the mayhem and why deface churches and Synagogues? I often ask myself, "Are the riots planned?"

Meanwhile Iran, Russia, China and Turkey celebrate the chaos unfolding in the US!

From days gone by...Amazing discovery reading an article in the JC...one of my favourites from yesteryear, Little Richard. He was a converted Jew, who refused to work on Shabbat and kept kosher and attended Synagogue!

I know many of us appreciate the Rabbi's Zoom and Conference meetings each Thursday evening, but I am sure many will agree, as Rabbi Yoni Birnbaum's article in the JC stated, "Zoom is no substitute for a real community." He ended his article m by saying, "The physical presence of the Jewish community may be on pause, but unlike Zoom, there will be no IT outages! Rebound it will ...and then we will appreciate every single Kaddish, even more than we did before."

Two Jews three opinions really is not funny, but true! Serving as President on the Representative Council for the community isn't easy! An issue that sometimes arises can divide a community, especially if that issue was wrongly conceived! The Council represents the Community, fostering unity in the community and long may it prosper and go from strength to strength!

I was drawn to an interesting D'var Torah on this weeks sidra Nasso, by the Chief Rabbi. If you didn't know Nasso has 3 meanings... but I found "to count" interesting! **Everyone** "counts" here, in our community, from the youngest to the eldest! Just hope parents will encourage their children and grandchildren to "get involved" for the future of the community. Their lives matter... as do ALL lives!

Wimbledon cancelled for the first time since the Second World War and when will soccer, rugby league and cricket start again? Could they even go out of existence?

BBC Newsnight and Question Time. Biased or not? What about Emily Maitlis's comments re Dominic Cummings! Did she break the rules? Impartiality?

Who would want to be in the PM's shoes? Damned if he does! Damned if he doesn't! As my late father (z"l) impressed on me so often, as I took on "communal and charity work," He said, you will please some of the people, some of the time, but you will never please all the people, all of the time!" How very, very true!

Have you spoken to more neighbours than formerly, during this pandemic? Takes me back to the days when our neighbours used to come into our home and we even left the doors unlocked!

With the SpaceX rocket launch are we entering a new dawn of space exploration?

I see that the PM has blocked Jeremy Corbyn's recommendation of a peerage for John Bercow. And Katie Murphy (Mr. Corbyn's former chief of staff) was also blocked over alleged anti/semitism in the Labour Party Party. Allegations she denies.

For those who still send letters etc I have 1st class 76p / 2nd class 65p stamps at 65p / 55p respectively.

Out of office, Corbyn is creating an anti Semitic myth to explain his defeat... a Twitter article by the JC.

I was sad to read of the death of Ruth David, of Covid-19. She was one of the last children to arrive on the "Kindertransport." Later in life she qualified as a teacher. She will be sadly missed especially by the Holocaust Educational Trust, for whom she worked tirelessly, visiting schools and college talking about the Holocaust.

I wish those who have yahrzeit in the coming week, "Long Life."

As I said last time about the 2nd World War...the spirit then was Britain pulling together to save the day" and that spirit is needed more than ever today!

Hopefully our community here in Hull will emerge stronger and more united from this Covid-19 pandemic! Good can come from evil.

How good and how pleasant it is, when brethren dwell together in harmony!

Wishing you Shabbat Shalom and a healthy week ahead! Keep smiling and "be alert!"

Just stay safe!

Barbara and Michael xx