

Good morning and I really do hope you are keeping well and managing to keep occupied, in whatever way you can.

Would you believe that it is our 6th week of self-isolation... is there an end in sight? I really do hope so, for our sanity if nothing else!

Hope that you are all able to keep in touch with family and friends, via whatever means you have available. Please let me know if you know of anyone who may need help... especially if they do not have a phone or mobile etc.

Key workers have certainly been at the centre of the media comments and Thursday evening "clapping" seems to really have become really popular. But as mentioned last time, the Jewish community here in Hull also has its key workers. Well done to **ALL** key workers.

So here are just a few things that I want to pass on, so to speak.

Headlines in a Daily Telegraph caught my eye..." How Israel became a global power in Television." Thanks to programmes like, *Shtisel*, *Fauda*, *the Messiah*, *Mossad* and *Unorthodox* etc etc.

Just hope by the way that you are not "suffering from friendship withdrawal" as Rowen Pelling, a lifelong extrovert, was!!

The telephone conference call with the Rabbi each Thursday evening at 7pm, seems to be very popular. A "tech" hitch meant most couldn't hear this week's call, but I believe, those using Zoom enjoyed the call.

Received a hand-sanitiser in the post, courtesy of MDA. How nice!

I wonder how many of you saw Prince Charles, a patron of WJR and the Holocaust Trust, talking on Yom Hashoah? His final sentence caught my attention... quoting from the psalms, " How good and how pleasant it is when brethren dwell together in harmony." Sound familiar? I hope so!!

And what about Captain Tom Moore (now promoted to honorary Colonel) raising £30,000,000 for the NHS! Congratulations Tom on behalf of us all, on your fantastic achievement, on your 100th birthday. Many happy returns of the day! Just goes to show, you are never too old!

Just hope we can keep the R factor at 1 or below, meaning we keep the Covid-19 virus at bay!

I'd like to pose a question for you. Which do you prefer? Should science serve society? OR should society serve science? Eastern countries like South Korea and Taiwan preferred the former.

Did you hear that Germany has "outlawed" Hezbollah as a terrorist organization? Just hope other countries will follow suit...but won't hold my breath.

Not sure you knew, but the 1 minutes silence on Tuesday (coinciding with Yom Hazikaron by the way) helped to remember all the key workers in the NHS, who lost their lives due to Covid-19.

Some good news! Prime Minister Boris Johnson back in office had some wonderful news. His partner Carrie Symonds had a baby boy. Mazeltov. I do not envy the PM's political task ahead though. Those who "think they know better" are queuing up to tell him what they would do and/or, simply criticize. Easiest thing in the world to criticize!

I wonder how many of you saw JNF's "Song Ha'atzmaut" hosted by Ashley Blaker, on Wednesday evening? It was great to see our own Maureen Lipman, as one of the 3 Judges. The others were Robert Rinder and Rosalyn Miller.

And how many of you have the new £20 note?

Guess what? After watching several Jewish themed films on Netflix, Barbara encouraged me to watch 2 Ballets, Matthew Bourne's *Swan Lake* and a very sensual *Casanova*! But I will not be in a rush to Covent Garden!

Has anyone heard of an Andrew Melvyn Gold or Leo and Blanche Gold? Also, anyone know or knew a family in Hull called Blumenfeld?

Well there we are that's me signing off until the next time. But as I keep reiterating if you do not wish to receive these weekly emails just let me know. I just think it is so important for all of us to "keep in touch"!

No, this is not the Watchman... that is not out until the 22nd of this month! Looking forward to receiving YOUR articles!

If you use or need first and second-class stamps or send parcels etc. let me know. I can save you money!

Shabbat Shalom and here's wishing you a very healthy Shabbat weekend, and also a healthy week ahead, with SUNSHINE!

Just stay safe!

Barbara and Michael xx