



Avon Branch CCJ Newsletter 2011

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Future meetings - all at 7.30pm IN THE NEW BRISTOL UNIVERSITY MULTI-FAITH CHAPLAINCY (The Grange, 1 Woodland Road BRISTOL BS8 1AU) unless stated otherwise

March 21st Kashrut *Peter Walters*; Christian perspectives on food issues *David Parsons*

11 April Kaballah and symbolism of medieval churches *Peter Walters*

23 May *Rabbi Dovid Usiskin* is the director of the Bristol Chabad House. Rabbi Dovid was born in London and grew up in Oxford. He was educated in Oxford, Bristol, Israel and the United States. He received his Rabbinical ordination in Jerusalem.

Chabad Lubavitch is a Jewish educational organisation with thousands of branches around the world. It aims to make Judaism accessible in a warm and friendly way, to Jews of all affiliations regardless of their level of observance or background.

Chabad House seeks to compliment the activities that already exist for Jewish community and students in Bristol by offering a variety of events, classes, lectures, parties, and Shabbat and Holiday meals in an open and welcoming environment. Our doors are open to all those seeking to learn more about their Jewish heritage and its spiritual dimension.

27 June Bereshit and Black Holes: The ancient Jewish commentaries on the Genesis story have a surprisingly modern feel. Learn what the Ramban thought about black holes, dark matter, primal material and the stretching of time!

25 July Christians and Jews – competitive siblings? – *Richard Johnson*

26 September AGM plus the oft postponed Hassids and Ranters *Peter Walters*

11 October 4.30 - 6.00 **RSVP to me if you intend to go to this.** *Ed Kessler* from Cambridge University and *Prof. Gavin d'Costa* will debate 'Catholic mission to the Jews - a disputed question' in the Theology Department. Gavin warns us: Rather inhospitably,

I'm afraid, there may be a social (wine and nibbles) for postgraduates after which CCJ members will not be invited to as the University are keen to only subsidise postgraduate receptions and we could not justify conflating it with a group not connected to the university as such. I say this now to avoid later embarrassment, but hope you understand.

24 October Is the Christmas Story Anti Semitic? – *Derek Jay*

November 21 *Yvonne* will speak about Sabra, a charity in north Israel which assists Jews from other countries, mainly Russia (FSU) who arrive in Israel with nothing. The charity provides basic support, food, etc. It is staffed almost completely by Christians from Europe, who live in for a year or two. It seems to be a good example of Christian / Jewish cooperation. This takes into account Inter Faith Week for Sunday 20th to Saturday 26th 2011. The first day coincides with Mitzvah Day. As Mitzvah Day is a day of practical action,

5 December Advent/Hannukah social evening

2012 – dates to be arranged

January The effects of the holocaust in Jewish-Christian Relations – based on chapter 10 of *Challenges in Jewish-Christian Relationships* ed. J. Aitken & E. Kessler

Role of the family: compare and contrast Judaism and Christianity

Sin and how to deal with it