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PaL is dedicated in lasting memory of Sammy Homburger ז"ל



PaLs

The Newsletter for Friends of Phone and Learn

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Learning it together

This year for Shabbat UK, PaL created three short courses focusing on 'Preparing for Shabbat', 'Running a Shabbat Table', and 'Attending Shabbat Services'. Each course was designed to take place in two half-hour learning sessions and came with comprehensive guides for both the tutor and the partner. The inspiration and enthusiasm generated by the countless communal events and Shabbat activities across the UK, increased the interest in learning about Shabbat.

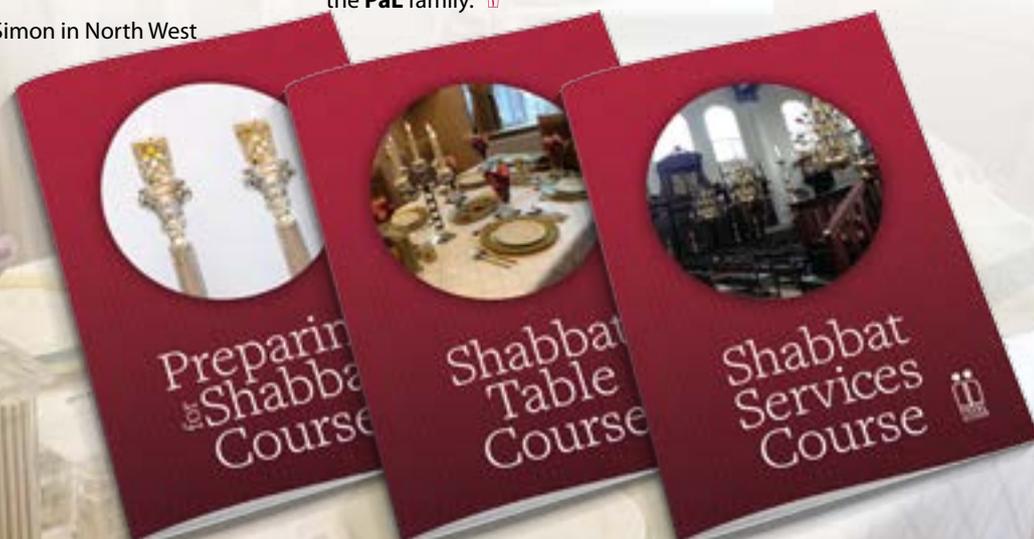
We were encouraged by how many past, present and new PaL partners and tutors took part in our special Shabbat UK learning programme. Many of those who signed up to participate in this exciting programme are now continuing to pursue different topics during their learning partnerships.

The Keshet Kehilla headed by Rabbi Rashi Simon in North West London was one of the many communities

who promoted these courses at their Havdalla event during Shabbat UK and many of their members signed up to participate in this programme.

PaL partner Alan commented, "The course was enlightening and it gave me the opportunity to discuss specific questions about Shabbat on a one-to-one basis with my PaL tutor."

PaL Programme Coordinator Rivka Graham added: "Shabbat UK was the perfect opportunity for us at PaL to provide additional learning resources to enhance the keeping of Shabbat and to continue to spread the word about the convenient and flexible opportunities we provide. We look forward to welcoming the new PaL partners to the PaL family." 📖



From the Mailbag

PaL tutor inspires

Dear **PaL**,

*On Tuesday 9th August, I hosted a shiur at my home in Elstree attended by over 20 ladies. I decided to do this in memory of my beloved mother, Freda Rochel whose first Yahrzeit it was. The shiur was given by my **PaL** tutor, Sara Wittenberg with whom I have been learning for over 9 years!*

Sara spoke about Tisha B'av, she connected the events commemorated on Tisha B'av with current events, as well as tragedies that unfortunately have befallen the Jewish people throughout our history. Sara explained how by linking these events, it can help us have a deeper understanding of Tisha B'av and that sombre time of year.

My friends who attended, found the shiur inspirational and thought-provoking, and I am so grateful to Sara for helping me to get where I am today. She is a fantastic tutor, always patient and reassuring me that there is no such thing as a stupid question.

PaL is such an amazing way to learn more about Judaism and I hope many more people will benefit from learning this way.

All the best,
Linda



Social Media

Creating a learning network

Join our Online Community

The concept of **PaL** is to go beyond geographic boundaries and provide Jewish learning opportunities to every Jewish person, wherever he or she is based. Due to the huge popularity of social media in the past few years, the entire marketing landscape has changed. We now have an easy to use, and powerful tool at our fingertips that can share a piece of content all over the world in seconds. Over the past few months, **PaL** has re-launched its social media exposure to take advantage of this and to further expand our learning programme even further afield.

PaL is now followed by many on both Facebook and Instagram, which gives users the opportunity to comment and generate discussions about the content posted. Increasing exposure in these platforms enables people who might not otherwise have access to learning opportunities to do so now, and also provides an exciting new 'online community' where people are able to discuss things together, ask questions in our 'Ask the Rabbi' facility and share our posts with friends and family members who might also benefit from this.

PaL Trustee Akiva Hackenbroch commented: "The world that we live in today is very different to a few years ago. Technological advances mean we can reach out to sectors of the Jewish community we might otherwise never have been able to connect with. It's tremendously exciting to witness people registering with **PaL** and taking steps to empower themselves Jewishly as a direct result of a Facebook post, tag or comment." 🙏



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Yeshiva & Sem Fair

In November, **PaL** once again attended the UJIA Yeshiva and Seminary fair in Hasmonean Girls School, London. As in previous successful years, the attendees included students deciding which Yeshiva or Seminary would best cater for their individual needs. Attendees were invited to sign up there and then to **PaL**, with a view to improving their Jewish learning skills before going to Yeshiva or Seminary. At the same time for those students who are not planning to take a gap year, the option to have a **PaL** learning partnership gives them the opportunity to continue their Jewish learning while they are working or in university. 🙏



Phone and Learn (PaL) is a division of Partners in Torah*, USA

www.partnersintorah.org, a unique Jewish identity-building initiative committed to fostering unity among Jews of all backgrounds. **PaL** matches Jews who want to know more about their heritage with a friendly, knowledgeable tutor for up to an hour a week of Jewish study and discussion, over the phone.

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