



**Mitzvah
Day**

Annual Report 2024

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What is Mitzvah Day?

Mitzvah Day brings people, of all faiths and none, together through Jewish-led social action. Based upon the Jewish values of *Gemilut Chasidim* (acts of kindness), *Tzedek* (justice) and *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world), it is the largest multi-faith day of social action in the United Kingdom and is a key calendar event in Jewish communities.

In 2024 we saw 35,000 people in the UK, from more than 450 organisations, take part in almost 2,000 projects encompassing food bank collections, care home visits, cooking for those in need, litter picks and much more.

Mitzvah Day brings thousands of people together, to give our most valuable possession: our time. We strive to make a positive difference to the communities around us on Mitzvah Day and throughout the year by encouraging and celebrating volunteering and building relationships with people we may not usually meet to build a strong civil society.

On Mitzvah Day, communities and individuals are empowered to engage in a wide variety of social action projects, including visiting older or lonely people; collecting clothing to donate to refugees; replenishing food bank stores; cooking for homeless people and taking part in environmental projects. All these projects facilitate genuine connections between communities, individuals and the charities they support, using social action as the way to connect.



Our 2024 Theme: Stronger Together

STRONGER TOGETHER

After a year of unparalleled conflict abroad and division at home, Mitzvah Day 2024 offered us a time to heal, connect with each other and focus on what matters in and between our communities – building a better society for all.

On Mitzvah Day, we defied the forces that tore us apart as we came together to support our local charities and build bridges of commonality. This year we are, quite simply, Stronger Together. Whether we were tackling food

insecurity, bringing joy and delight to care homes, collecting clothes for those in need or cleaning up a local park – we were once again working across faith and non-faith groups. No matter the activity... we did it together.

By working side-by-side in this way, people from different faith traditions are able to continue to build connections, celebrate our shared values, and ultimately create a more unified and supportive society – showing that we are all Stronger Together.

51

Charity Partners



462

Registrations



55,000

Volunteers worldwide



A man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark suit, light blue shirt, and striped tie, is speaking into a microphone. A woman with long brown hair is visible in the background, smiling. The background is a wood-paneled wall.

The Power of Stronger Together Stuart Diamond, Chief Executive

On Mitzvah Day 2024, we witnessed a remarkable outpouring of community spirit across the UK and the world. Thousands of volunteers dedicated their time and energy to a diverse range of projects that addressed critical needs in their communities.

I was truly blown away by the incredible dedication and enthusiasm of the volunteers who turned out this year. They are the true heroes of the day, embodying the spirit of Stronger Together through their selfless acts of kindness and compassion. Their commitment to making a difference in their communities is truly inspiring.

A key highlight for me was the privilege of visiting communities in Manchester, Leeds, York, Norwich, Coventry, and Cumbria during Mitzvah Day. These visits reinforced the theme for 2024, and I witnessed the

incredible spirit of collaboration and unity within each community. It was truly inspiring to see individuals from all walks of life coming together to make a difference.

Key highlights of the day included significant contributions to community support initiatives. Volunteers provided invaluable assistance to food banks, homeless shelters, and community centres, alleviating food insecurity and combating social isolation.

Environmental action was also a focus. Volunteers actively engaged in initiatives such as litter-picks, tree planting, and beach cleanups, demonstrating a collective commitment to environmental sustainability.

The Stronger Together theme proved instrumental in fostering intergenerational collaboration, bringing together individuals

of all ages, and from all levels of society to work side-by-side. This cooperative spirit not only encouraged social action but also strengthened community bonds and developed valuable life skills among participants.

Beyond the immediate impact, Mitzvah Day 2024 served as a powerful catalyst for increased awareness of social and environmental issues within local communities. The day inspired individuals to become more active and engaged citizens, fostering a sense of responsibility and a desire to make a lasting difference.

The success of Mitzvah Day 2024 underscores the profound impact of collective action. As we move forward, we are committed to building upon this success, encouraging even greater participation, and expanding our reach to make an even more significant impact on our communities.

By continuing to embody the values of Tzedek, Tikkun Olam and Gemilut Chasadim, we can work together to create a more just, kind, and sustainable world for all.

In 2025, Mitzvah Day will be celebrating its 20th anniversary, a testament to the enduring power of volunteerism and community engagement. As we look towards this milestone, we are inspired to continue building upon the legacy of Mitzvah Day, inspiring even greater acts of kindness, and creating a positive impact on communities across the UK and the world.





Mitzvah Day in a Divided World

Laura Marks CBE, Founder & Chair

The world of 2024 has felt volatile, divided and polarised. With the war ongoing and the divisions reverberating across the globe, it was with some trepidation that I approached Mitzvah Day.

Tragically many of our Jewish participating organisations reported that they had found relationships with their neighbours from other faith communities to be strained during the year – a pattern we saw worldwide. We desperately needed Mitzvah Day to be a tonic, a bridge, a link to the local community where we live, side by side as diverse, thriving communities.

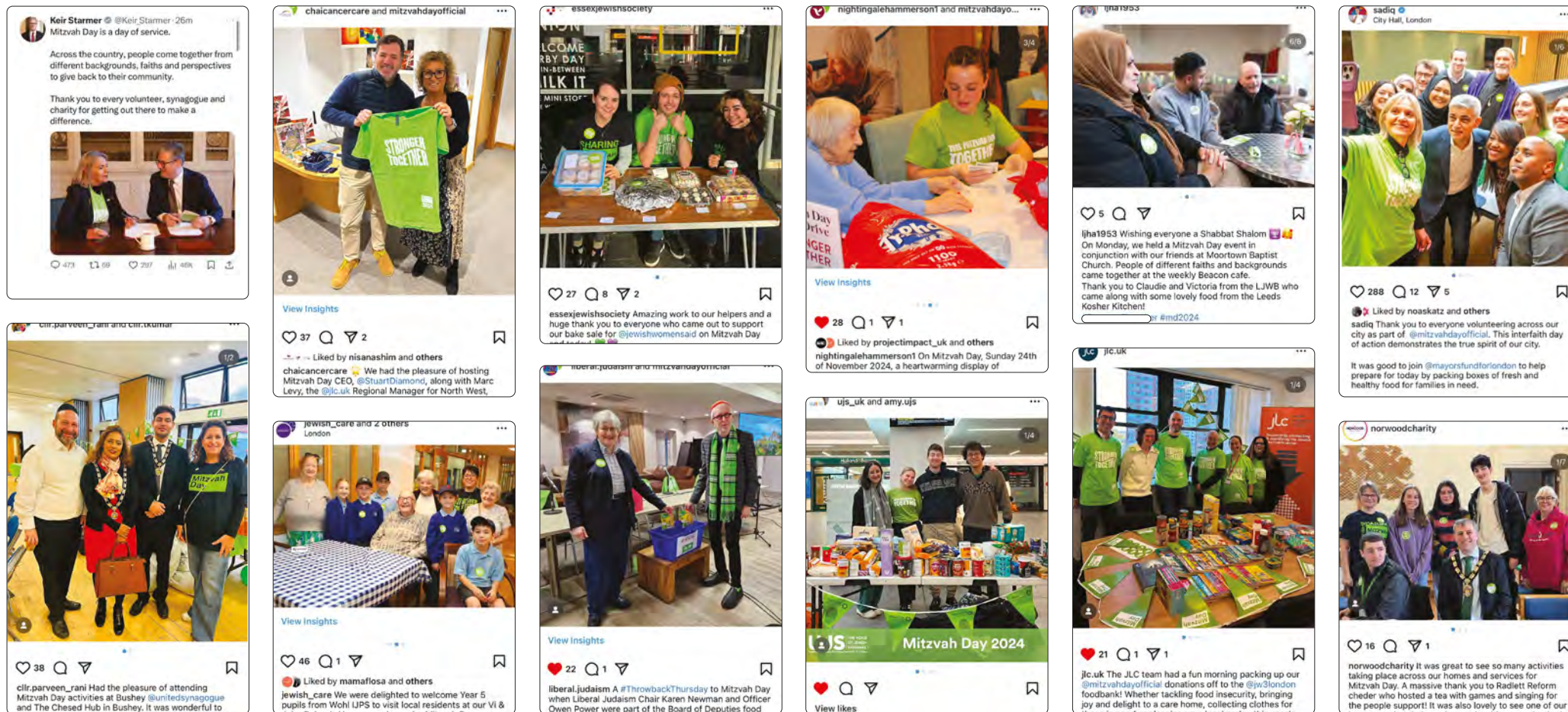
Led by synagogue groups, students, schools, multifaith organisations and people working in businesses thousands of people turned out on Mitzvah Day. Despite the dark and gloomy climate we

demonstrated yet again, that by doing normal, caring, giving and supportive acts of social action, Mitzvah Day brings people together not only with the charities which need us, but with people who really do want to connect at a human level.

Mitzvah Day this year was a beacon of Jewish-led positivity and giving, a tsunami of generosity and a day (well really two weeks) of experiencing the joy of being together and giving back.

A huge thank you to all those who took part supporting local charities including the Prime Minister and a wealth of faith and political leaders demonstrating that we are united as citizens and givers regardless of politics, faith or background.





Press and Social Media

Follow and tag us on Instagram @MitzvahDayOfficial

35,000 unite for Mitzvah Day: UK's biggest day of interfaith social action

More than 3,000 projects were undertaken including care home visits, cooking for those in need and food banks and winter clothing collections

by MICHELLE HARRISON
November 12, 2024, 4:04 pm

Stronger Together: Jews, Muslims and Christians unite on Mitzvah Day

Tulip Siddiq
@TulipSiddiq

It was wonderful to celebrate @MitzvahDay again with the residents and staff at Spring Grove Care Home.

It was a pleasure to share a letter from the Prime Minister @Keir_Starmer thanking Spring Grove for the role they play in our Camden community.

Lord Wajid Khan
@LordWajidKhan

Was a pleasure to work alongside volunteers @C4WSCamden who provide meals and beds for guests at a night shelter. While so many support their communities like this every day, Mitzvah Day is a wonderful opportunity to get involved and recognise the value of faith-led social action

Mitzvah Day @MitzvahDay · 12h

Lord Wajid Khan, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (@mrhckg), joined Camden Council (@wemakcamden) and Mitzvah Day at the C4WS Night (@c4wsnight) at the Kings Cross Methodist Church earlier this week.

Follow
2h · 16

In the rain and wind, it was lovely to see different community and faith groups come together today for a shared purpose. Following the concerns about potential unrest in North Harrow over the summer, Rev'd Sarah Archer St. Albans Church envisioned a different "riot of good deeds" instead—and what a success it was for Mitzvah Day. Thank you for making it happen with the support of indefatigable Harrow Litter Pickers volunteers and here's to more!

Like Comment Send Share



Mitzvah Day 2024

35,000 unite for Mitzvah Day: UK's biggest day of interfaith social action

More than 35,000 people from all backgrounds and faiths joined together for Mitzvah Day 2024, the UK's biggest day of interfaith social action. The day was marked by thousands of projects across the country, from care home visits to food banks and winter clothing collections. The event was organized by the Jewish Community Federation of the UK and the Muslim Council of Britain, with support from the Prime Minister and the Mayor of London.

35,000 attend Mitzvah Day

Stronger Together: Jews, Muslims and Christians unite on Mitzvah Day

It's a day about helping others and about giving back to the community. It's a day about making a difference.



Mitzvah Day

Thank you to the **tens of thousands** who joined Mitzvah Day.

Together, we made a difference!

Your kindness and dedication show that we are truly **Stronger Together**.

STRONGER TOGETHER

Mitzvah Day 2024 November 2024

ESSEX JEWISH NEWS

Chanukah Issue 57/58/2024

MITZVAH MADNESS ACROSS ESSEX

More than 3,000 projects were undertaken across Essex, including care home visits, food banks, and winter clothing collections. The event was a huge success, with volunteers from all backgrounds and faiths coming together to make a difference.

ICN

Stronger Together: Jews, Muslims and Christians unite on Mitzvah Day

The event was a huge success, with volunteers from all backgrounds and faiths coming together to make a difference. The day was marked by thousands of projects across the country, from care home visits to food banks and winter clothing collections.

Mitzvah Day Awards Shine a Light on Devoted Volunteers and Champion Charities

The annual Mitzvah Day Awards ceremony celebrated the dedication and hard work of volunteers and charities across the UK. The awards were presented to a wide range of individuals and organizations who have made a significant impact on their communities.

A selection of Mitzvah Day winners in action

The winners of the Mitzvah Day Awards are shown in action, demonstrating their commitment to social action and community service. The winners include individuals and organizations from across the UK, each with their own unique story of impact.

What They Said...

“

Mitzvah Day is a day of service, uniting thousands of people from different faiths and backgrounds to do good in support of those in need. No matter the challenges we face, and no matter what our differences may be, we are always stronger together – and I am incredibly inspired by the volunteers taking part.”

Sir Keir Starmer,
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

“

It was a delight to join the community at the Nightingale Care Home to mark Mitzvah Day, and to see the generosity of spirit reflected in so many acts of kindness across the country. The theme of this year's Mitzvah Day, Stronger Together, is a timely reminder that we all have much more in common than divides us.”

Sir Ed Davey, Leader of the Liberal Democrats

“

In times of division, coming together through mitzvot is essential. Acts of kindness help us transcend differences, building a compassionate society. By uniting in service, we demonstrate that our strength lies in unity and forge lasting connections in our diverse world.”

Chief Imam Dr Sayed Ali Abbas Razawi

“

Mitzvah Day is a great occasion to encourage everyone from all faiths and backgrounds to come together and make the world a better place through social action. It provides an inspiring example and reminder of the generosity humankind is capable of.”

Bob Blackman MP

“

This year's Mitzvah Day, and especially its theme of Stronger Together, is a chance once more to put our core Jewish values into action.

It is our opportunity, as a Jewish community, to reach out to friends and neighbours of all faiths and backgrounds – and begin, develop or cement those vital relationships that sustain us in both good times and bad.

This November, we look forward to joining thousands of Progressive Jews all over the UK – and abroad – as we stand side-by-side in social action with other faiths to make a real difference to the communities and society around us.”

Rabbi Charley Baginsky and Rabbi Josh Levy, the Co-Leads of Progressive Judaism

“

Whether through zakat in Islam or tzedakah in Judaism, our shared traditions remind us that caring for others is not just an act of kindness but a sacred duty. Mitzvah Day beautifully reflects these shared values, bringing us together to strengthen our communities and make a meaningful difference.”

Imam Asim Hafiz

“

The Hebrew word for hope “Tikva” – has long been a rallying call used by Jews, determined to forge a stronger future. But many people are not aware that in its original use, in the Book of Joshua, the word actually means, a rope.

The rope is a symbol of hope because it weaves together, many different strands which individually are weak but when combined, they become unbreakable.

Once again, Mitzvah Day has captured the essence of this principle with its theme, Stronger Together in these challenging times, when the enmity and division seem rife, Mitzvah Day provides a timely reminder of what we can achieve when we stand side by side.”

Chief Rabbi Sir Ephraim Mirvis



**Mitzvah Day drew
in leaders from right
across the political and
religious divides**



The Impact of Mitzvah Day

“

We can be the change we want to see in our own communities. Mitzvah Day is a way I can help be that change, and it has brought me incalculable joy and happiness.”

Alexandra Domingue,
Coordinator of Maidenhead
Reform Synagogue

“

Mitzvah Day is a shining example of the Jewish community coming together to give back, strengthen connections, and support those in need. By fostering friendships and empowering volunteers, it builds a sense of unity and purpose, proving that small acts of kindness can have a lasting impact. Recognised across the UK and beyond, Mitzvah Day is a testament to the power of social action in bringing people together and making a real difference. I am thrilled each year to see so many people, of all ages and skills, having such a positive impact on the local and wider community.”

Corinne Linskill, Chair, Stanmore & Canons Park Synagogue Mitzvah Day Committee

“

The children were very excited about Mitzvah Day this year and have gained so much from the experience of visiting the local Jewish Care home. Watching the two generations interact was very special - and they have asked to go back to the home to see their new friends.”

Deborah Harris, Jewish Studies Lead of Wohl Ilford Jewish Primary School

“

Mitzvah Day is a wonderful opportunity to open up to the world a little bit and showcase who we are and what we do; to embrace what our communities share together. There is no doubt that for our Jewish community, the past 13 months have been some of the hardest we've endured. When I feel a bit hopeless, I remember that we can't change what happens elsewhere, but we can be the change we want to see in our own communities. Mitzvah Day is a way I can help be that change, and it has brought me incalculable joy and happiness.”

Alexandra Domingue, Coordinator of Maidenhead Reform Synagogue

“

Mitzvah Day offers a wonderful opportunity for the Jewish community to showcase the breadth and impact of its year-round volunteering efforts, providing vital social action projects for those in need. It's a special day that highlights the community's commitment to giving back, fostering positive relationships as we work alongside members of other faiths to build understanding and improve our world.”

Esmond Rosen, Barnet Multi Faith Forum President and Mitzvah Day Co-Ordinator

“

Mitzvah Day unites diverse faith communities to break down barriers and transform lives. It showcases the Jewish community at its best, providing opportunities for Jews to give back, strengthen their identity, and connect with others, even during challenging times. A Rabbi's daughter calling on a Vicar to rescue Mitzvah Day CEO Stuart Diamond, stranded by Storm Bert en route to an event at Rose Castle, exemplifies this spirit. Supported by national leaders, Mitzvah Day empowers volunteers, supports charities, and fosters a global Jewish connection. By promoting social action, it combats antisemitism and builds a more inclusive society.”

Abigail Mann, Cumbria Mitzvah Day Co-Ordinator

“

Mitzvah Day reminded us that building bridges through acts of kindness isn't just a nice idea - it's an essential practice that helps create the world we wish to see.”

Rabbi Elana Dellal of The Liberal Jewish Synagogue

“

Whilst EHRS has a deeply embedded history and culture of continual social action, Mitzvah Day provides an ideal focus, bringing together members of all ages to engage with each other and with local faith communities, building long lasting partnerships, whilst supporting a range of charitable institutions. Working alongside our interfaith friends and planning specific Mitzvah Day joint projects, as well as empowering our membership to create interesting and worthwhile projects, has helped to foster friendships across religious divides.”

Debbie Drapkin, Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue Mitzvah Day Co-Ordinator

“

Mitzvah Day promotes social action and community engagement, which are crucial in combating antisemitism and fostering a more inclusive society.”

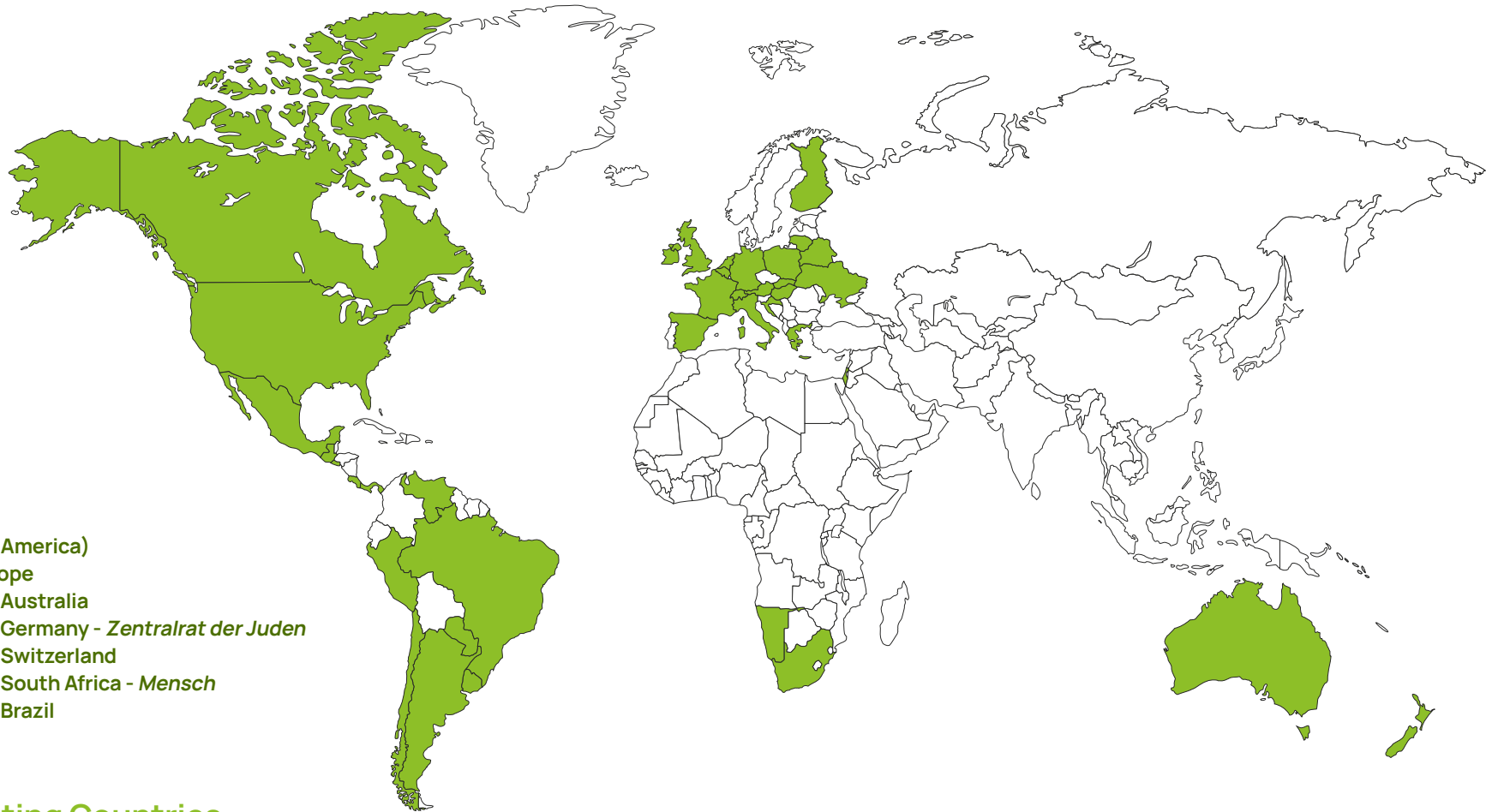
Mitzvah Day Co-Ordinator, London

Mitzvah Day International

In 2024, Mitzvah Day continued to thrive as a global movement, welcoming participation from countries from across the globe and embracing new local communities eager to join the Mitzvah Day family. Together, we were truly stronger across the globe, united in making a meaningful difference.

This year, Mitzvah Day projects took place in countries across the globe, spanning continents and connecting communities. From South America to South Africa, Germany to Brazil, Bermuda to Poland, Singapore to Switzerland, and everywhere in between, the Mitzvah Day message of being Stronger Together defied borders and saw the Mitzvah Day community across the globe coming together.

With Mitzvah Day UK at the heart of this effort, our collective impact resonates far and wide. In 2024, we truly embody the power of unity, proving that together, we are stronger and capable of creating a better world.



Hubs

Lazos (Latin America)
 Maccabi Europe
 Mitzvah Day Australia
 Mitzvah Day Germany - *Zentralrat der Juden*
 Mitzvah Day Switzerland
 Mitzvah Day South Africa - *Mensch*
 Mitzvah Day Brazil

Participating Countries

Argentina	El Salvador	Malta	Scotland
Australia	England	Mexico	Slovakia
Austria	Finland	Namibia	South Africa
Belarus	France	Netherlands	Spain
Belgium	Germany	New Zealand	Switzerland
Bermuda	Greece	Northern Ireland	Ukraine
Brazil	Guatemala	Panama	United States
Canada	Hungary	Paraguay	Uruguay
Chile	Israel	Peru	Venezuela
Costa Rica	Italy	Poland	Wales
Croatia	Lithuania	Republic of Ireland	

Advancing a powerful
 sense of global Jewish
 identity and connection
 within the Diaspora

Connecting Faith Communities

London Mayor Sadiq Khan packed 'Create and Make' boxes for people supported by the Mayor's Fund for London, joined by Deputy Mayor Debbie Weekes-Bernard and volunteers from the Jewish and Muslim networks at City Hall.

Imam Asim Hafiz, Rabbi Charley Baginsky and Bishop of Edmonton Revd Canon Dr Anderson Jeremiah came together in a show of solidarity at care home Hammerson House where residents and volunteers – including from Caritas Westminster, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster and local Jewish communities – packed for Food Bank Aid and sang and danced together with Mitzvah Day founder and Chair, Laura Marks CBE.

Pupils at Wohl Ilford Jewish Primary School collected for Camp Simcha and Sikh welfare charity Nishkam SWAT – before a visit to Jewish Care Vi & John Ruben's House care home in Redbridge, where they brought cheer to residents.

Volunteers in Cumbria came together to support the region's refugees with a day of activities culminating in a tea at Rose Castle where they were joined by the High Sheriff of Cumbria and Archdeacon of Carlisle together with Mitzvah Day CEO, Stuart Diamond.

Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue (EHRS) united with BAPS Neasden Hindu Temple and people from other faiths for their annual interfaith Mitzvah Day Cook-a-long, a flagship project that takes place annually. This event is a shining example of the flourishing relationship between EHRS and the Neasden Temple, highlighting their shared commitment to community service and interfaith harmony.

The Lincolnshire Jewish Community together with the Centre for Reconciliation, the Hindu community as well as the Central Methodist Church launched a Hygiene Bank in September 2024 and spent Mitzvah Day packing and supporting the hygiene bank by sorting out donations.

In Leeds, Moortown Baptist Church, Leeds Jewish Representative Council and Leeds Jewish Housing Association joined together for an early multi-faith Mitzvah Day event for the church's food pantry and Beacon Café – a Warm Space café that serves up free tea, coffee and cakes to anyone.



Mitzvah Day brings
people of different
faiths and backgrounds
together which helps
combat antisemitism and
fosters a more caring society



...vah

Day

Mitzvah
Day

Helping Hands, Brighton

Thank you —
we don't do this alone!

Major Donors

Bloom Foundation

Davis Foundation

Harold Hyam Wingate Foundation

Pears Foundation

Peter Oppenheimer
- Goldman Sachs Gives

Rachel Charitable Trust

Shoresh Charitable Trust

Mitzvah Day Friends

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Alexandra Dominique
All Aboard
Amelia Wiseman
Angst Productions
Angela Niman
Anglo-Jewish Association
Beaverbrooks Charitable Trust
Ben Leon
Bianca and Gary Sakol
BNJC
Board of Deputies of British Jews
Brighton and Hove Faith in Action
Camden Council
Caritas Westminster
Childwick Trust
Dan Ozarow
Daniel Cohen
Daniel Levy
Diocese of London
Ecclesiastical - The Benefact Group

Edwin and Esther Shuker
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Giselle Waterman
Hertsmere Council and Councillors
Jacqui and Simon Rickman
Jeremy Franks and Chris Lenihan
Jewish Representative Council of Greater
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Jewish Leadership Council
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Sir Victor and Lady Sylvia Blank
Small Jewish Communities Association
Steven and Alicia Lewis
Suzanne Freeda
The Seashell of Lisson Grove
Telereal Trillium
Yakir Zur Photography
and other anonymous donors.



With Special Thanks

A huge thank you to all our communal, civic, and religious leaders for your incredible support and participation in Mitzvah Day. Your presence and commitment were invaluable, inspiring countless volunteers and helping us make a real difference in communities across the UK. We deeply appreciate your partnership and look forward to continuing to work together to build a stronger and more connected society.

A special thank you to Prime Minister Keir Starmer, Ed Davey, Leader of the Liberal Democrats, MP Bob Blackman, 1922 Committee Chairman, Mayor of London Sadiq Khan, Bishop of Edmonton, and Faith Minister Lord Wajid Khan, who actively participated in Mitzvah Day Stronger Together, demonstrating their commitment to unity and positive change.

To our UK and international participating organisations and the inspirational projects being run in communities.

The Mitzvah Day international partners who spread the work of Mitzvah Day across the world and continue to grow a network of social action changemakers.

The organisations are:

- Lazos (Latin America)
- Maccabi Europe
- Mitzvah Day Australia
- Mitzvah Day Germany - *Zentralrat der Juden*
- Mitzvah Day Switzerland
- Mitzvah Day South Africa - *Mensch*
- Mitzvah Day Brazil

Pears Foundation, for its indefatigable partnership, guidance, and support.

The Bloom Foundation, for their generous support, wise guidance, and enduring partnership.

Inter Faith Network for the United Kingdom, especially their annual Inter Faith Week that promotes and encourages members to participate in Mitzvah Day.

Graphical, for the years of inspired designs that have brought the Mitzvah Day brand to life.

A special thank you goes to all our charity partners, with whom we work so closely, to create sustainable Mitzvah Day projects supporting the essential work they do.

The Mitzvah Day Trustees for their unwavering support and commitment to ensuring our stability and sustainability:

- Lee Davis
- David Ginsburg
- Julie Gittoes
- Nick Grant
- Sharon Horowitz
- Lucy Maislish
- Laura Marks CBE, *Founder & Chair*
- Judy Mizrahi
- Edwin Shuker
- Amelia Wiseman, *Treasurer*
- Jeremy Wootliff, *Board of Deputies Representative*




The Mitzvah Day Chief Executive Officer, Staff and Contractors for their continued diligence in delivering and growing Mitzvah Day year on year.



Mitzvah Day is a proud member of



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1125682

Save the Date!
23 November 2025