



Borehamwood & Elstree Synagogue
Croxdale Road, Borehamwood,
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Press Release

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Borehamwood Synagogue Pioneers Torah Lectures for the Hearing Impaired.

It was not your ordinary lecture. As some participants listened to Borehamwood's Rabbi Naftali Brawer deliver a talk on Mezuzah this past Wednesday night, others watched his words appear on a giant screen.

The Electronic note taker was provided by the Jewish Deaf Association (JDA) as a means of making Torah more assessable to a wider audience.

Unfortunately, there are many within the Jewish community who are excluded from a whole range of educational and cultural programs at Synagogues because they are unable to hear what is said.

This obstacle is easily overcome by an electronic note taker who transcribes a summary of the lecture which is simultaneously projected on a giant screen.

Rabbi Brawer said "As a lecturer it takes some getting used to. It is a bit unnerving watching your words produced on screen almost as soon as you've spoken them. The trick is to ignore the screen and the note taker and just relax. Once I got the hang of it I was fine and everyone seemed to really enjoy the lecture."

The lecture, not specifically aimed at the hearing impaired, was the first of a series on basic Judaism. There are three more lectures in the series on the themes of Kosher, Shabbat and the Synagogue service. Details can be found on the Synagogue website www.borehamwoodshul.org

This new initiative was presented by Jeremy Freeman a member of the Borehamwood & Elstree United Synagogue.

Rabbi Brawer said "We are very proud to be in the forefront of bringing Torah to the hearing impaired and we look forward to offering this service at more lectures and events in the future."

Further information

For further information, please contact the synagogue office on 020-8386 5227 or Rabbi Brawer at 07976 545 962