

Masorti Judaism

Senior Leadership Team Report
Annual General Meeting – September 2025

Rabbi Adam Zagoria-Moffet (Director of Strategy)
Chantal Jacobs (Director of Operations)
Martha Limburg (Director of Communities)

Introduction

5786 – 5787 has been a year of both challenge and creativity. At Masorti Judaism, we believe that in a fractured world the strength of Jewish life is found in our togetherness: in prayer, in learning, and in building resilient communities of meaning. This year demonstrated our strengths in each of those areas, and pushed us to grow and develop into new approaches to the many challenges our community faces.

This year also marked the formation of a new Senior Leadership Team, bringing together:

- **Rabbi Adam Zagoria-Moffet, Director of Strategy**
- **Chantal Jacobs, Director of Operations**
- **Martha Limburg, Director of Communities**

Together, we have sought to strengthen the foundations of Masorti Judaism, nurture our communities, and prepare for the future with courage and clarity. What follows is a snapshot of the key areas of progress during the past year.

Strengthening our Foundations

- We began a **comprehensive review of our internal policies** to ensure they meet best-practice standards. Once completed, these will be shared with our communities as examples for their own governance.
- We **secured a two-year lease extension** on our current office, guaranteeing stability for our staff and programmes.
- The **European Masorti Bet Din** remains active, even while it goes through a period of transition, offering support in conversion, marriage, divorce, kashrut and other vital areas of Jewish life.

Building for the Future

- We launched a **new Bnei Mitzvah programme** that will support five communities from September, with capacity to grow further. This ensures that even smaller congregations can offer their young people a meaningful and consistent Masorti rite of passage.
- *Shema Koleinu* reached the **final year of its Heritage Lottery-funded project**. With further funding, we are adding much-needed mourning resources and Haftarah leying tutorials to its library of prayer materials at masortiprayer.org.uk.

- We invested in **leadership pipelines**: from Noam's graduate course, which trained 37 young leaders, to mentoring rabbinical students and supporting early-career rabbis through peer networks.

Engaging Young Adults

- Rabbi Oliver led **Jewish/ & courses** for interfaith couples and young adults, directly supporting four couples and engaging many more in learning. Rabbi Lara hosted many more and ran numerous workshops and courses.
- Under the **Marom and Noam Alumni umbrellas**, we supported young Jews with micro-grants, hosted Friday night dinners and social events, and created new spaces of belonging.
- We ensured that **Noam's Israel Tour** went ahead despite uncertainty. Fifty-seven young people took part in this transformative journey, reaffirming its role as a core rite of passage.

Nurturing Communities

- We welcomed **Kehillat Or Tzion in South Manchester** as a new member of the Masorti family, while continuing to support the growth of **Brighton Masorti**.
- We convened a **Community Chairs' Forum** every six weeks, enabling peer learning and mutual support. This included a two-part course on leading through change and bespoke training in listening campaigns.
- Through the **Clei Kodesh programme**, we offered monthly learning for rabbis and an annual three-day retreat, supporting rabbinic growth and resilience.

Sharing Torah and Learning

- Weekly **Talmud shiurim** with Rabbi Chaim Weiner at Kollel.
- *Shema Koleinu*, our online hub for liturgical skills
- Pre-Pesach enrichment sessions and bite-sized Halakhah learning
- A resource bank for smaller communities giving them access to online education being provided by our rabbis and educators across the movement
- **Yom Masorti**, a celebratory day of study and reflection with rabbis and lay leaders from across the movement

Living our Values

- We ran **LGBTQ+ creative workshops** for Hanukkah and Pesach, and offered a text-based course on Halakhah and inclusion.
- The **Noam Inclusion Fund** grew further, ensuring finances and additional needs are never barriers to participation.
- We strengthened our partnerships with **Masorti Israel, Masorti Europe, the Louis Jacobs Foundation, the Board of Deputies, the JLC**, and the **Rabbinical Assembly**, placing UK Masorti Judaism within a global network.

Reflections

Not every initiative succeeded as we had hoped. Some of our attempts at new dialogue formats did not attract participation. We will review these carefully, since open, respectful discussion is core to our mission.

Looking Ahead

Our strategic priorities for the coming year are clear:

- Deepen our commitment to communities old and new
- Strengthen youth, student and young adult engagement through leadership pipelines
- Launch bold new learning initiatives, including **Midreshet Masoret**, an open, egalitarian Beit Midrash
- Place **Halakhah — evolving, compelling and authoritative — at the heart of our message**
- Build bridges with partner organisations in the UK and across the Masorti world
- Use the fact of our 40th anniversary to reconnect with our founding values and narrative

Conclusion

Our tradition teaches that *Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh* — all Israel are responsible for one another. This year has shown that principle in action: through camps, classes, community forums, rabbinic support, and new initiatives, Masorti Judaism continues to offer a compelling vision of Jewish life in the UK.

As your Senior Leadership Team, we are grateful to our staff, rabbis, lay leaders and volunteers for their partnership. Together, we look forward to building the next chapter of Masorti Judaism with courage, clarity, and creativity.