



*A Home For Jewish Herts*

**The Kol Nidre Appeal**  
**5777/2016**

Leket Israel is the largest food bank in Israel, and has been a leader and an expert in food rescue nationwide since 2003. The organisation sources, collects and redistributes fresh, perishable, quality food, which would otherwise be considered waste, from farms, hotels, military bases and catering halls. This is done in an effort to aid the quarter of the country's population that lives below the poverty line.

-  Leket provides nutritious food to over 175,000 Israelis every week
-  Each week Leket rescues the equivalent of 13,000 meals and over 154 tons of perishable food
-  This food is then delivered by over 52,000 volunteers
-  Last year Leket collected and delivered over 30 million pounds of fresh, healthy food for the needy.
-  Leket works with 195 non-profits throughout the country

This is all food that would have otherwise gone to waste. For each £1 received, Leket Israel rescues £5 worth of food at wholesale prices.

Thousands of tons of quality food go to waste in Israel and is estimated at 40% of all the food produced in the country. This paradox of large scale food waste coupled with the growing number of Israel's poor led to the founding of Leket Israel, to bring quality surplus food to people who really need it.

To meet this goal, Leket Israel carries out a wide array of food rescue activities: harvesting fresh produce from farmers' fields; collecting surplus agriculture from packing houses; rescuing cooked food from various suppliers, as well as food products from the manufacturing industry. A significant portion of Leket's food rescue activities is carried out by dedicated volunteers.

Leket Israel assists all at-risk population groups regardless of gender, ethnic background, or religion.



Leket Israel was awarded the Israeli Presidential Citation for Volunteerism, the MIDOT Seal of Organizational Effectiveness and is the Israeli member of the Global FoodBanking Network.

## The Ruth Schneider Memorial Trust

### A Fund for Masorti Youth

The Ruth Schneider Memorial Trust provides support to enable Masorti youth to participate in summer camps, residential experiences, tours and year programmes, irrespective of means.

The Trust seeks to assist between twenty and forty young people every year, Masorti members who, due to financial hardship or their family situation, would not otherwise be able to take part.

Since its inception in 1995 the Trust has been able to make over 250 grants. However, in the current economic climate the demands on us are greater than the resources held. In recent years we could not grant all the sums sought, and without your support this year will be similar. All donations received go directly towards funding youth activities.

Created in memory of the late much-loved Ruth, who in the latter years of her short life was instrumental in the formation of Noam and did much to establish youth activities in what is now the Masorti movement, the Trust seeks to maintain Ruth's legacy of an inclusive Masorti youth movement that can be accessed by the whole community, irrespective of means.

The opportunity to nurture the potential of young people is a meaningful and long-lasting gift. Noam provides a safe and organised environment for our youth to develop and experiment with their Jewish identity in an inclusive environment. Through participation in Noam, hundreds of young people have developed personal and leadership skills as well as a solid foundation of Jewish education, debate and exploration.

Through its excellent accredited leadership programmes, Noam has been able to provide valuable life skills for individuals and continuity for the movement. The Ruth Schneider Memorial Trust looks to maintain this tradition by ensuring that Jewish youth activities are accessible to as many Masorti members as possible.



## The St Albans Masorti Synagogue Memorial Installation

For some time an idea has been germinating about creating a memorial installation to allow members to honour deceased loved ones. We are delighted to announce that SAMS' trustees have given their go ahead to our team to work on a project to create such an installation and to include it in this year's Kol Nidre appeal.

The idea is that a piece of artwork will be designed to fit on the wall at the back of the main hall, with individual tiles engraved or inscribed with a name or names. The installation will be extended as it becomes necessary with engraved pieces added as required. An example of this kind of installation would be a tree with engraved leaves, as can be seen in many shuls around the world. Our artwork may be something completely different – it will be up to our designers to come up with proposals that are both practical and aesthetically pleasing. Before a design is agreed upon we will be showing ideas to the community for feedback and opinion. So far two designers are interested in submitting proposals. If you know of a designer who would like to put forward a proposal, please ask them to contact us.



It is important to note that the installation is not a fundraiser for the shul – as part of our inclusive culture, all engravable pieces will be created equal, with each one sold at a minimal price in order to make purchase accessible to everyone. However, we need your donations in order to create a unique, bespoke piece of artwork that can be moved to a new building if and when necessary, something special that will provide a lasting legacy for us all.

We are delighted to let you know that we have already received one substantial contribution from within SAMS to help us to get the ball rolling. Now we need your help to build the fund. Whatever you can contribute will be used to build our memorial. If you have a family member who may like to add to our fund, please ask them. Please give what you can. Thank you.

**To make a donation please pay into bank account number 00017157, sort code 40-52-40 or else send a cheque payable to SAMS, 9 The Dencora Centre, Campfield Road, St Albans, AL1 5HN. In both instances, please send a covering note or email ([info@e-sams.org](mailto:info@e-sams.org)) stating how you would like your donation directed.**