

Green Team News

Issue 11: Shevat 5786 / January-February 26

Welcome to EHC's Green Team News. Contributions are welcome from any member of the community – if you have visited an interesting environmental project, discovered a relevant book, radio programme/podcast or TV show or if you have ideas from your garden that you would like to share. Please contact The Green Team through notifications.ehc4@gmail.com. The deadline for the next edition is **10th February**. The most recent newsletter will be uploaded to the [Green Team page of the EHC website](#) shortly after publication.

Tu B'Shevat Celebration of New EHC Orchard

You're all invited!!! Join us for this special day

On **Sunday 1st February 11am-12.30pm** EHC will celebrate the Jewish New Year for Trees, Tu B'Shevat, which falls on the next day.

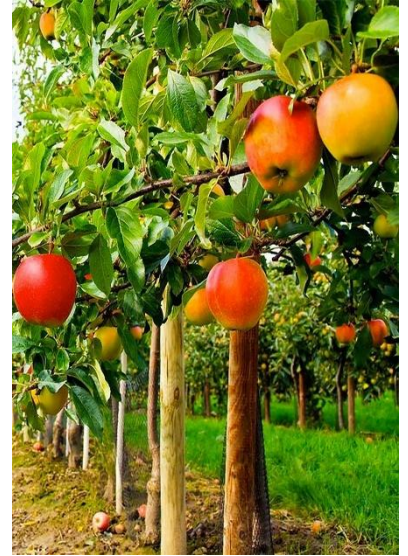
Keep the date!

There will be a dedication to our new fruit trees, outside in the garden, including a thank you to our generous tree sponsors.

Please assemble in the garden at 11am and join us for tea/coffee in the Hall afterwards.

All welcome to enjoy this double celebration – the planting of new fruit trees together with Tu B'Shevat.

Register your interest in coming with EHC Admin – notifications.ehc4@gmail.com.



Dorothe Kaufmann

We regret to announce the passing of Dorothe on 23rd December. She was a staunch supporter of EHC for many years attending various events, selling her own propagated plants at the coffee mornings and working in the garden. Many of the plants in the flower beds were put in by Dorothe. As a committed garden volunteer, she turned up every Wednesday morning to energetically garden at EHC. Dorothe usually arrived complete with strimmer, secateurs, kneeling pad and cuttings, often working independently, homing in on what work was needed most. She will be sadly missed by her fellow gardeners for her sound gardening advice and green wisdom.



<https://www.ehcong.com/jewish-edinburgh/green-team/>

Garden Incident Book

Please note that a 'Garden Incident Book' is now in the Library. You can find it on the first window shelf on the left as you enter. Please note any accident or incident e.g. stranger in the garden, a fall, allergic reaction or mishap of any kind in this book. Don't forget to sign and date it. For more details please see Elaine Levy.



Sustainable Cleaning Products



Method-cleaning-products-safe-or-toxic

On investigating cleaning products purporting to be sustainable and non-toxic, rather than reinvent the wheel I researched particular products. 'Method' products were deconstructed into their various ingredients in the following article. Each one is defined according to their chemical make up for their toxicity in terms of allergens, carcinomes and production methods. The concluding paragraph of the article by

Irina Webb - (Consumer Safety Advocate & Manufacturer Advisor For Ingredient Safety), is below.

“To sum up, while Method has made commendable progress in promoting eco-friendly cleaning and raising awareness about plant-based ingredients, its products are not entirely free from safety concerns. In fact, several formulations contain harsh preservatives, potentially health concerning surfactants, and unnecessary synthetic colorants. Additionally, most Method cleaning products include fragrances with ingredients linked to sensitization and allergic reactions.”

Read the full research here:

<https://ireadlabelsforyou.com/method-cleaning-products-safe-or-toxic/>

Ecover

Ecover started out as a Belgian company. Its products have been on British shelves since 1991, making it an early household name for those looking to make greener choices.

It makes a range of cleaning products including washing-up liquid, laundry detergent and hand wash. It states its mission is to lead a 'clean world revolution'. In 2012 it merged with Method, a cleaning company with a similar green ethos.

But in 2018, both brands were bought by US household cleaning giant SC Johnson, which owns many other companies, including Mr Muscle, Toilet Duck and Pledge.

There's little mention of SC Johnson on Ecover's website and some of the website doesn't seem to have been updated for a while; its sustainability information needs updating as it mentions targets it plans to achieve by 2020. While both Method and Ecover have retained their commitments to greener cleaner products, they are part of a larger group that owns brands that don't adhere to the same standards – a factor which may be important to you.

Ecover: In summary

Excludes parabens, triclosan and phthalates?	Yes.
Excludes petroleum-based ingredients?	Avoids them but they are not wholly excluded.
Vegan-friendly and cruelty-free?	Yes - Ecover is Leaping Bunny approved but this doesn't apply to all SC Johnson brands.
Uses sustainable palm?	100% RSPO certified.
Has targets to reduce GHG emissions? (including scope 3/supply chain emissions)	SC Johnson has targets to reduce manufacturing emissions as well as waste and packaging targets. But they don't currently cover its whole supply chain - scope 3 - which will make up the vast majority of its emissions.
Recyclable packaging?	All bottles fully recyclable.
Refillable options?	Offers large format bottles so you can refill at home and refill stations at independent shops around the country.

Read More in [Which Magazine's Review](#).

Newsletter from EcoJudaism



[Click here](#) for some interesting updates on Eco events around the country:

The Eco Judaism UK Group have discovered a new packaging material – Vivomer

More details on the ShellWorks website: <https://www.shellworks.com/>

Plastic-Free Packaging, without the compromise.

- Beautiful, functional, and stable in use.
- Plastic Free
- 100% Bio-Based
- Home compost certified
- Shelf stable + zero waste
- No toxins
- No microplastics
- No petrochemicals
- No Phthalates, PFAS, BPA

One Green Step



eco
judaism

One Green Step

Shevat

Pre-loved is in The Air ♡

Fast fashion is fast damaging our environment

Energy-intensive:

Accounts for 8-10% of global emissions

Depletes the Earth's resources:

2,000 gallons of water to produce 1 pair of jeans

Causes land and air pollution:

An equivalent of one bin lorry of clothes is burned or
landfilled every second

To reduce this colossal, toxic waste and extend the life of
clothes, follow the "pre-loved" trend:

Buy from online marketplaces or charity shops

Instead of brand new, enjoy "new to you"!

Chodesh Tov!



ECO SHABBAT KIDDUNCH

Hosted by EHC GREEN TEAM



Save the Date: Shabbat 13th June with speaker.

Watch this space for more details.



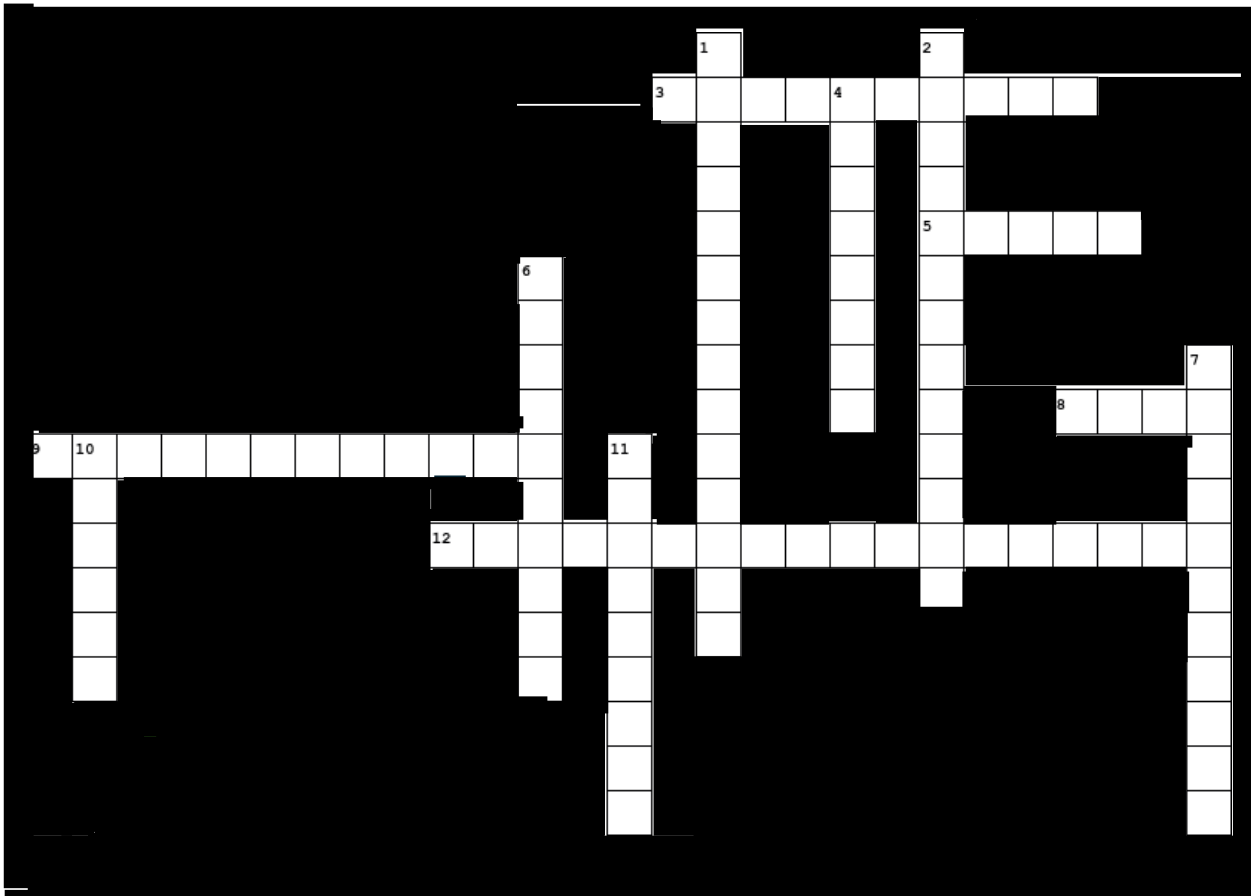
Green Team Crossword

Solution to Tevet crossword

Across	Down
2. Fruity plans (7) ORCHARD	1. Not with fish or dogs (4,5) BARK CHIPS
6. Positive decay (5) MULCH	3. Single tyre has benefits (11) WHEELBARROW
7. Emission insights (6,9,10) CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR	4. Newsletter enhancement? (9) CROSSWORD
9. Etrog ball (8) POMANDER	5. Your fronds are so coarse (7) BRACKEN
10. No case for landfill (5) LULAV	8. Down with 3 R's (6) REDUCE
11. Beyond dormancy (9) GERMINATE	
12. Chanukah market cunning (6) CRAFTY	

Shevat 5786

All the answers are inspired by last month's newsletter.



Across

- 3. Garden's priceless prerequisite (10)
- 5. Interest in sapling planting (5)
- 8. Helicopter-seeded (4)
- 9. Green Team Market (8,4)
- 12. Fuel cells, solar panels etc (3,5,10)

Down

- 1. Cheder's green but shoreless output (6,8)
- 2. Cobalt extraction (4,3,6)
- 4. Taking the wrap (4,4)
- 6. Orchard readiness? (2,8)
- 7. Mother's mother, but incognito (6,5)
- 10. Bike's ahoy (6)
- 11. Apple source (9)