Green Team News

Issue 12: Adar 5786 / February-March 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 **12th March**. The most recent newsletter will be uploaded to the Green Team page of the EHC website shortly after publication.

EHC's new orchard

EHC Green Team Gardening Group

EHC dedicated a new orchard in the Shul grounds combining the celebration of Tu B'Shevat with the planting of 8 new fruit trees. The garden group of the Green Team worked hard to plant the trees in readiness for the dedication.

Members sponsored the trees, some in memory of loved ones, others were dedicated to friends. The sun shone for us and the weather was dry. The dedication included some information about the 'wood wide web' and how trees communicate with each other.

50 people attended. Tu B'Shevat refreshments were served by Merav Gardi afterwards in the Community Centre.

Since then we have had four further requests to donate for trees. EHC's orchard is expanding!

Reports of the orchard dedication appeared in the Jewish Telegraph, Jewish Chronicle and Jewish News.

The Dedication

Merav's Tu B'Shevat Spread

EHC Green Team Past and Future

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

Past achievements in 2025

1. Installed bicycle anchor in front forecourt with plans for further two
2. Distributed potatoes, cucumbers, herbs, leeks, rhubarb to members
3. Sold lavender bags at various events filled with lavender from garden
4. Did numerous Biblical garden tours over Spring and Summer
5. Investigated solar panels
6. Hosted an Eco Shabbat Kiddush with in-house baking
7. Cleared the self-seeded trees in order to plant fruit trees
8. Used the shredded bark to suffocate weeds in the lower garden
9. Planned the planting of a fruit orchard
10. Bat Box and Bird Box for garden being built by Member's son
11. Published a monthly newsletter updating Eco News and EHC Green Team activities.
12. Attended regular Eco Team Meets

Future Plans for 2026

1. Plant berry bushes – raspberries, blackcurrant
2. Continue fruit tree planting
3. Visit to Millerhill Recycling Plant
4. Eco Shabbat Lunch with speaker
5. Erect tool shed
6. Install 2 more cycle anchors
7. Book council uplift of rubbish (rotten bench, old shopping trolley, etc)
8. Develop lower garden for use by community
9. Summer Kiddushim in garden
10. Plant early potatoes for community use
11. Lag B'Omer celebration
12. Bat and bird boxes to be hung
13. Fence off upper and lower garden
14. Improve recycling notices in kitchen

The Mystery of the Bird Box

A RSPB bird box mysteriously appeared on the back wall of the garden. Can someone solve this mystery for us?

Meantime the children of one of our members have taken on the task of building not only a bird box but a bat box as well, as a winter project. We are looking forward to receiving these when they are ready to hang up.

Close to Home – Scotland's Changing Nature

Nature Scot deals with all things natural in Scotland e.g. Biodiversity, Climate Change, Adaptation to a changing climate, Funding, and much more.

The Circular Economy

'There is a growing body of evidence that shows circularity has a vital role in helping us build a stronger, more resilient economy – and a new report has found that circular businesses are contributing billions to Scotland's economy.' (Zero Waste Scotland report)

The short video below (click on the link) provides an explanation and some examples of the above which help to demonstrate how the circular economy works.

https://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/topics/circular-economy

ECO SHABBAT KIDDUNCH

Hosted by EHC GREEN TEAM

To be held in June – date to be confirmed.

Watch this space for more details.

Eco Judaism One Green Step – Adar

As Adar begins, our joy increases.

Spread the joy of Adar by supporting an environmental charity in Israel (Sustainability Action Plan Section 6 No. 25).

- SPNI – Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. Work includes: Creating marine protected areas in the Mediterranean Sea, protecting species and habitats, as well as rewilding.
- Eco Ocean. Work includes: Promoting marine environmental conservation and promoting research.
- IMMRAC – Israeli Marine Mammal Research and Assistance Centre. Work focuses on: Study and conservation of cetaceans – aquatic mammals including whales, dolphins and porpoises.

Wishing you a joyful Adar – Chodesh Tov!

Green Team Crossword

Solution to Shevat crossword

Across

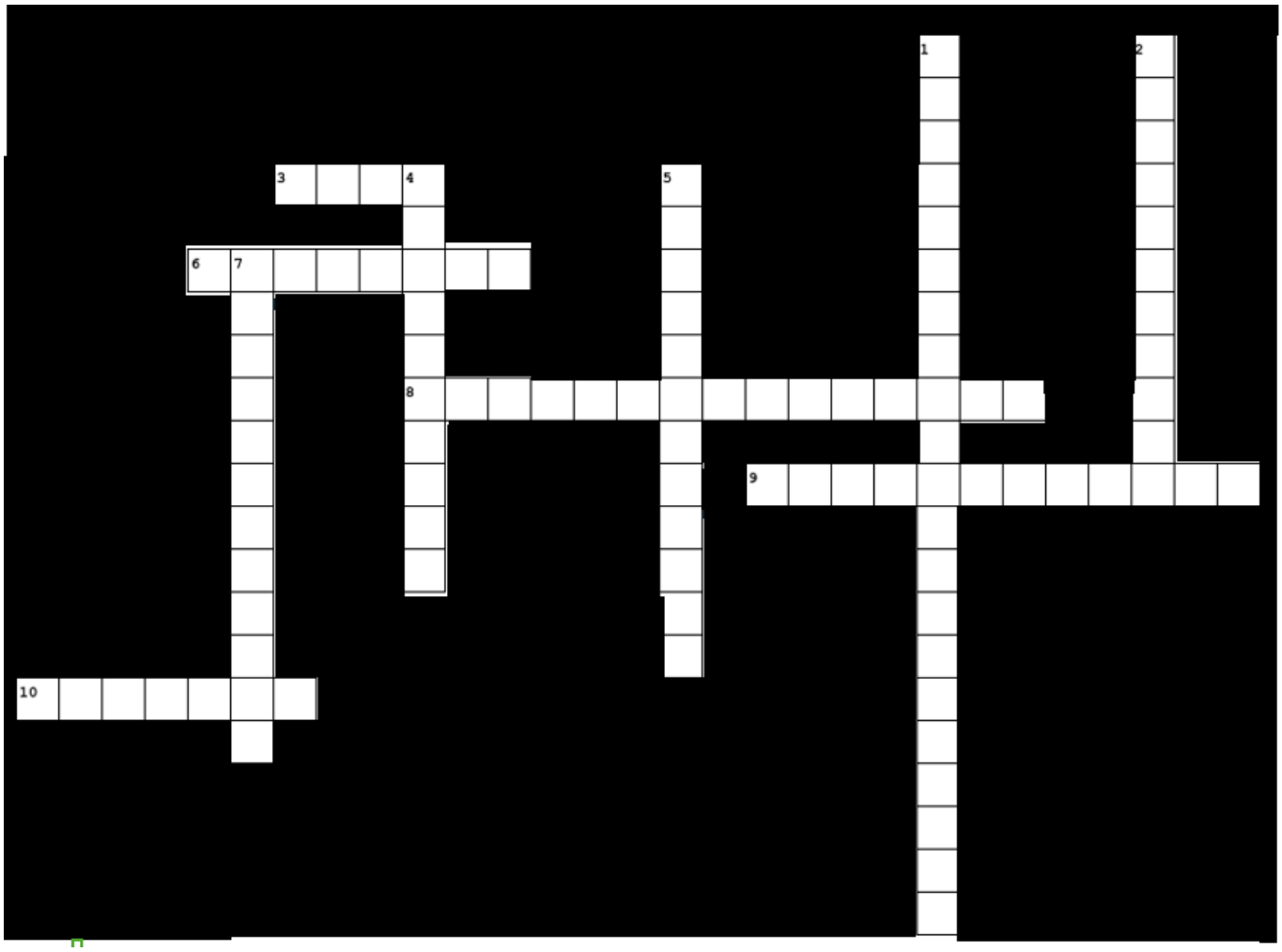
3. Garden's priceless prerequisite (10) *volunteers*
5. Interest in sapling planting (5) *stake*
8. Helicopter-seeded (4) *acer*
9. Green Team Market (8,4) *lavender bags*
12. Fuel cells, solar panels etc (3,5,10) *the green transition*

Down

1. Cheder's green but shoreless output (6,8) *wooden coasters*
2. Cobalt extraction (4,3,6) *deep sea mining*
4. Taking the wrap (4,4) *nude food*
6.Orchard readiness? (2,8) *Tu B'Shevat*
7. Mother's mother, but incognito (6,5) *granny smith*
10. Bike's ahoy (6) *anchor*
11.Apple source (9) *Kirkcaldy*

Green Team Crossword Adar 5786

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



Across

3. Eco kiddunch month (4)

6. Seminal to our EHC orchard (8)

8. Stalwart supporter inspires us (7,8)

9. Jumping rabbit is standard (7,5)

10. Fermented waste sent packing (7)

Down

1. Allergic washing? (5,8,8)

2. 8%-10% of global emissions (4,7)

4. Our green umbrella (3,7)

5. Record mishaps (8,4)

7. Packaging omission pre-requisite? (7-4)