Further letter of support following the Heaton Park attack

Hello all,

Just writing to express my deepest condolences for the attacks on the community in Manchester yesterday. Sending hugs and lots of love.

Best wishes,
E

Good Morning,

In these difficult times (after the Manchester attack at Yom Kippur) I just want to say that my thoughts and prayer over the next few days will be with all of you who are attached to the two synagogues in Nottingham, with any Jewish people who feel fearful or scapegoated in this country and with all of the ordinary suffering people in Israel , Gaza and the West Bank, who long for a just Peace.

Let us hope and pray, in the light of the new ,first stage ,agreement.

As a Catholic Christian, I tried to try to support local Inter Faith events ,in years gone by. I see Jennifer Lipman and Dr Jonathon Romain both have articles published in this week's edition of The Tablet.

Kind regards
M

Firstly, may I offer my sincere condolences after the vile Manchester attack.

After living in Sherwood for the last 28 years, I have only just discovered your synagogue on my doorstep and would at some point like to visit if possible.

Kind regards and thoughts of solidarity with the Jewish community at this difficult time.
D

Dear Nottingham Liberal Synagogue,
It's hard to know what to say, but I know my struggle to find the right words shouldn't stop me contacting you, to say just how much your community is in my thoughts and prayers.
I'm so ashamed of our country, to think that something like the attack on the worshipers at the Manchester synagogue could have happened here. It's lunacy. Viewing synagogues around the world as if they are embassy's of Israel. I pray that you will one day all be able to gather together without having to think about security issues.
I continue to pray that one day the Palestinians in the Middle East become the kind of neighbours Israel can have and still feel safe in their home.

(I visited your synagogue in 2023. I've always wanted to broaden my knowledge of Judaism. It was a wonderful experience, particularly to hear scripture read in Hebrew. Not that I could understand it, but such a beautiful sound.)
E

Hi I am not sure this is a right thing to do, so my apologies if not.
For what little it might be worth, I just wanted to let you know that we are thinking of all our brilliant Jewish neighbours on this very sad of remembrance for Oct 7.
It is hardly anything but we lit a candle in our window this morning.
We do care, we are ashamed of what our country has become.
Best wishes,
B.

Dear Nottingham Liberal Synagogue,

I'm writing as a non-Jewish resident of Keyworth who feels deeply moved by recent events affecting Jewish communities in Manchester and across Britain. I wanted to reach out with a message of solidarity and support.

As a child of a Forces family, I spent 7 years living in Germany. Very early in our posting there, my father took my brother and me to Belsen concentration camp. He believed it was vital that we have an understanding of the horrors of the Holocaust and the terrible consequences of hatred and discrimination. That visit left a lasting impression on me, and I've carried its weight and meaning ever since.

In light of recent antisemitic incidents, I feel compelled to speak out and stand alongside those who are targeted. I believe that remembrance must be active, and that "Never Again" is not just a historical phrase—it is a moral commitment.

If there are ways I might support your community, whether through attending events, contributing to educational efforts, or simply offering a listening presence, I would be grateful to know. I send this message with humility, respect, and a deep sense of shared humanity.

With warmest regards,
M

Dear Susan,

Thank you for your kind response. I'm deeply moved by the strength and grace with which Nottingham Liberal Synagogue continues to hold space in these difficult times. Please know that I will continue to hold your community in my thoughts and prayers.

Though there may be no specific request at present, I remain ready to support in whatever way may be helpful in the future. In the meantime, I send warmth and respect to you and all at NLS.

With heartfelt best wishes,
M

From Community and Religious Leaders and Organisations

Dear Rabbi

We would like to pass on our condolences to you and your congregation for the atrocity in Manchester last week, and also concern about the rising anti-semitism.

One positive thing I hope that can come out of this is perhaps we meet up and discuss how we might might work together to respond to wide growing hate crime. In particular Hate Crime Awareness Week starts with a Love Nottingham, No Place For Hate event on Saturday (11th Oct) organised by Himmah. I do hope the synagogue can be represented there. If there are any events you might be thinking of organising in the light of Manchester, do let us know and we would like to participate.

We as Nottingham Stand Up To Racism would also be pleased to discuss how we might work closely with you over future events of common interest. We did have a very good relationship with Rabbi Tanya and I apologise that it has taken until an event like last week's for us to contact you with this in mind. I and my partner (we live in Sherwood) also used to regularly attend the concerts Rabbi Tanya organised at the synagogue.

I hope you are able to get in touch soon - I will be at the event on Saturday so we might be able to say hello there.

Many thanks

Richard Buckwell

Good morning Rabbi

Forgive me for emailing you but I would like to reach out to you and your congregation on behalf of Nottinghamshire VictimCARE to offer our assistance by way of emotional support and practical help.

This support is offered to anyone who may have been a victim of crime, whether that be hate/discrimination or any other crime they could be adversely affected by. Clearly the horrific incident in Manchester will have affected your community and caused great distress plus feelings of uncertainty.

We stand by you and the Jewish community and to this end I would be more than happy to meet with you or attend an event where we could offer our service.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.
Jane Macadam
Caseworker – Notts Victim CARE

I would like to express my profound sorrow that the Jewish community is subject to racism and anti-semitism currently.

I have visited the synagogue in Sherwood and was made very welcome and learnt a lot about Judaism. .

Nottingham has always been a city where we celebrate our diverse community. I am hoping that there continues to be cohesion and that we can stand shoulder to shoulder against division.
Councillor Cheryl Barnard

Dear Rabbis and the Esteemed Members of the Jewish Community,

As-salāmu ʿalaykum – peace be upon you.

On behalf of Muslim community in the UK, I wish to express our deepest condolences and sorrow after the tragic attack that targeted innocent worshippers in a synagogue. Our hearts are with the victims, their families, and your entire community at this painful time.

As Muslims, we stand firmly against all forms of terrorism, hatred, and violence. The Qur'an teaches us:

مِنْ أَجْلِ ذَٰلِكَ كَتَبْنَا عَلَىٰ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ أَنَّهُ مَنْ قَتَلَ نَفْسًا بِغَيْرِ نَفْسٍ أَوْ فَسَادٍ فِي الْأَرْضِ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَتَلَ النَّاسَ جَمِيعًا ۖ وَمَنْ(
أَحْيَاهَا فَكَأَنَّمَا أَحْيَا النَّاسَ جَمِيعًا)
"That is why We decreed upon the Children of Israel that whoever kills a soul—unless in retribution for murder or corruption in the land—it is as if he had killed all of mankind. And whoever saves a life, it is as if he had saved all of mankind." (Qur'an 5:32)

This same teaching is echoed in your tradition: "Whoever destroys a single life, it is as if he destroyed an entire world. And whoever saves a single life, it is as if he saved an entire world." (Mishnah Sanhedrin 4:5)

These words from our sacred scriptures remind us that Jews and Muslims are bound together as children of Abraham (Ibrahim عليه السلام). We share the same moral foundation: the sanctity of life, the pursuit of justice, and the protection of the innocent.

At a time when hatred seeks to divide, we must remember that the heirs of Abraham are called to stand together in solidarity, to defend the dignity of every human being, and to protect all houses of worship — mosques, synagogues, churches, and temples.

May the Almighty bring comfort to the bereaved, healing to the wounded, and peace to our world.

With heartfelt sympathy and prayers,

Sincerely,
Imam and author Muhammad Khalid Jamal

Dear Gili (and community),

I hope that this finds you all well. I have been to Nottingham Quaker Meeting this morning and we all agreed that we wanted to send our best wishes and solidarity to you all at this difficult time. We were all shocked and saddened to hear about the terrible events in Manchester, and hope that you are all safe and well. We can't imagine what it must be like to have heard this news. Please be assured of our continued support.

In connection with that, we will be delighted to connect with you all, when you feel it is the right time, in some form of interfaith event.

Please accept our love and prayers.

All good wishes,

Jonathan Doering

Dear Rabbi Gili,
My name is Rev Clare Owen, I am currently Assistant Curate in Mickleover, and am a member of the developing Jewish Christian dialogue group for Derbyshire.
Unfortunately I was unable to attend the Sabbath service you kindly invited us to in August, as I have been on sick leave for the last couple of months.
I have therefore not yet had the pleasure of meeting you. None the less, I wanted to reach out at this incredibly difficult time to express my sincere sympathies, in light of the shocking attack in Manchester this week. May the memories of those killed be a blessing.
I am truly horrified at this heinous act, and wish to extend my friendship and sincere support to both yourself and your community at this time.
More than 15 years ago, I attended NLS with a former partner (during Rabbi Tanya's early days in Nottingham, and before I came to my faith). I have exceedingly fond memories of the time I spent at the synagogue, and whilst this relationship did not last, the welcome I received, and time spent there, had a profoundly positive impact upon my life.

If there is anything I can do - now, or at any time in the future - to stand in support with you all, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Please be assured of my prayers and ongoing support.
Rev Clare

Dear Friends,

I write in horror at the events in Manchester,
and to express deep sadness and sorrow at the grief and trauma that the members of your community must feel. I know that if an atrocity had been committed against a Christian Church at Christmas or Easter, we would have suffered distress, and this may well be yet greater for you since I understand Yom Kippur may convey the importance of both.

Whatever our views about Gaza, and I know that many Jewish people are concerned about the destruction there, every human being has a right to respect, to worship, and, indeed, to life. That which is sacred to all religions if it is not inhumane must be respected.

My thoughts, prayers, and hope that your community may feel once more that they belong to us all.

Best wishes,

David Speed (Rev. retired)
