

## Community Bridges the Tay

For some time, most members of the Tayside and Fife Jewish Community have lived south of the Tay in Fife, where there are also large number of Jewish students and staff in St Andrews University – last Yom Kippur only six people attended the service in Dundee



and fifty in St Andrews. Five years ago the community took the decision to reflect this when it rebranded as the Tayside and Fife Jewish Community, and they have now taken the historic step of moving their base to the Chaplaincy Centre at St Andrews University, and selling the shul building in Dundee.



The formal move to St Andrews came in April, when the Principal of the University, Prof Sally Mapstone, and the University Chaplain, joined members of the community, SCoJeC Council, and more than 25 Jewish students and staff, for a short celebratory service of thanksgiving and hachnasat Sefer Torah, the celebration welcoming the Torah scrolls

to their new home. The scrolls were passed from hand to hand round the room, with everyone including the Principal participating, before one of the students read the Priestly Benediction from the book of Numbers in one of the scrolls.

After the event, Principal Mapstone said how moved she had been by the occasion, and Emily Michelson, who coordinated the event said, “Thank you all for participating and making our hachnasat Sefer Torah feel so very communal and celebratory.”

