**Welfare report 2020-2021 from Janet Kogan**

I was hoping that the 2020- 2021 report would be a bit different from last year’s, when we had lockdown and isolated members of our community. Sadly this year hasn’t vastly changed.

I have made over 300 phone calls to members, largely those who we would have seen in shul had we been meeting in person, but also to members who are elderly and unwell. I hope I have covered most of the NEMS membership.

In the Southend area Ros has kept me up to date with her dealings with the community, and we are ever hopeful that the long- awaited tea party can happen with Rabbi Zahavit once the community centre allows outside hire of its facilities.

I have sent a number of cards; new babies, new homes, and special birthdays and sadly some bereavement ones.

The tea party in July was a great way to reconnect, and I hope that we can repeat social events to encourage people back to the shul. I sense a growing feeling that the long- term effects of the lockdowns and restrictions will have an impact on our active membership.

I am happy to continue in this role, unless someone else wishes to take over.