Temple Israel focused on ecological awareness at their Purim celebrations this year. Stalls sold food and drinks, and of course hamentashen, as well as reusable shopping bags made of parachute material and tin cans lined with hessian as plant pots to grow parsley for Pesach.

Games included eco-bricks hung on strings that were used as targets for tennis ball throws, an eco-brick making race, ‘fishing’ for sustainable fish, and a fun game of eco-bingo.

After eating, drinking, playing and socialising the Megillah reading and Purim spiel was chanted and performed by Rabbi Greg and congregants.

See page 24 for more Temple Israel news.
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Cape Jewish Chronicle Samson Centre 87 Hatfield Str Gardens 8001 PO Box 4176 Cape Town 8000 phone 021 464 6736 email chron@ctjc.co.za Editor Lindy Diamond
Lindy with a why

Why this one question could make you so much happier

By Lindy Diamond, Editor Cape Jewish Chronicle

I’ve been battling with a relationship.

It’s one of those complicated ones, where you know what you want to do, but you aren’t sure if your intention is protective or avoidant.

I chatted to my girlfriends about it, and they supported me wholeheartedly, but isn’t that what friends do? I asked my Mom and she gave careful and gentle guidance. My husband picks up his battle-axe if I even mention someone is causing me distress, which is reassuring, but not helpful in this particular situation. I was still lost.

Until now. A friend posted an article on Facebook and a light went off inside my head. The article, by writer and educational specialist Linda Stade, is titled The Question That Will Help Teenagers Find Their Tribe and the question she asks in the article is “Who do you like yourself around?”

It’s meant to help young people find a healthy group of friends that resonate with them, but I found the question really helpful at my age as well, and perhaps it can help you too.

Who do you like yourself around? Such a simple question with such profound and far-reaching consequences if we act on our answers. You know which interactions leave you feeling buoyant and energised and which leave you feeling somehow less than you were before.

So I thought about it. I have so many relationships in my life that bring me joy. I also wear many hats. Wife, Mother, Daughter, Daughter-in-law, Editor, Friend, Colleague, School Parent. I show different parts of myself to different people and people also bring out different parts of me.

I’ve recently completed a leadership course where I was one of the youngest participants and I was pleasantly surprised when others on the course described me as a calming, organised influence. How they saw me made me feel so good, especially when I see myself as dropping the ball a lot of the time. Then in almost the opposite sort of interaction, I opened up to a weekly class I was attending about how anxious I often feel, like I’m constantly treading water. And they listened to what I had to say without judgement. Two groups of people, acknowledging diametrically opposing sides of me, in spaces where I could have felt exposed and yet I came out of both feeling good.

You know those relationships where you spend time after an interaction rehashing the whole thing over in your head, making up responses for the other person, that are also in your head, and then reacting to them, in your head, until you are the scriptwriter, director and entire cast of your own imagined dramatic miniseries? I know some of you do.

Those relationships leave you feeling diminished, unsure and unhappy. They trigger reactions that are stress producing, and they give very little reward in return. Sometimes in these instances, we can’t choose to walk away. We can, however, recognise them for what they are.

When I can be me, with all my contradictions and constant mind changing and effervescent over-enthusiasm and still feel accepted (even celebrated), those are the people I like myself around (you know who you are, and I thank you).

Those are the times when I don’t feel the need to walk away rehashing the conversation, worrying about gas-lighting and having those conversations (that are only in my head) between me and the other person, creating all sorts of drama that isn’t there. That’s who I feel good around. That’s who I feel relaxed around and that’s who I like myself around.

So, who do you like yourself around?
Subs for 2019 now due...

Pay your voluntary subscription of R295

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Community Noticeboard

YOM HASHOAH V’HAGEVURAH
The Holocaust and Heroism Day
Thursday 2 May
Part 1: 12h45 - 1.15
Part 2: 1.25 - 2pm
at Pinelands No 2 Cemetery

YOM HA’ATZMAUT
Coming soon to a circus tent near you …
Zip Zap Circus
Thursday 9 May
See page 15

UNITED HERZLIA SCHOOLS
Special General meeting and AGM on 23 May 2019 at 8pm at Highlands Campus. See pg 20

SCHINDLER’S LIST 25TH ANNIVERSARY
Wednesday 29 May, 6pm at CT Holocaust and Genocide Centre, Hatfield street, Gardens
See page 19

SAVE THE DATE!! UJW AGM
86th Annual General Meeting will be held on 30 May, 10am,
Greek Club, Hellenic Community Centre, Mouille Point
See page 43 for details

YOM YERUSHALAYIM - WIZO
Concert for Unity Peace Hope on Sunday 2 June at 6.30pm
See page 25

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH MUSEUM
Operation Moses 30 Years After.
Operation Moses was the secret airlift of around 7 000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel in 1984/85.
#YALLAYEBO. South Africa and Israel through the lens of four Instagrammers

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23 – 25 AUGUST
UCT Graduate School of Business, V&A Waterfront

The following organisations are affiliated to Jewish Care Cape Town:
Cape Jewish Seniors Association • Glendale • Highlands House •
Jewish Community Services • Nechama • Oranjia • ASTRA Centre
(Jewish Sheltered Employment and Rosecourt Group Homes)
www.jewishcare.org.za

MOVED HOUSE?
REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS
email: chron@ctjc.co.za

Shabbat and Yom Tov Times

Date | Portion | Candle lighting | Ends
--- | --- | --- | ---
3 May/28 Nissan | Achare | 5.45pm | 6.38pm
10 May/5 Iyar | Kedoshim | 5.39pm | 6.32pm
17 May/12 Iyar | Emor | 5.34pm | 6.27pm
24 May/19 Iyar | Behar | 5.30pm | 6.24pm
31 May/26Iyar | Bechukkotai | 5.27pm | 6.21pm

N.B. Please note that the times indicated are the earliest times for candle lighting. Please consult your Rabbi.
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Why being out, proud and Jewish matters

By Jacqui Benson

Recently a relative asked me why there was a Jewish Pride Shabbat, and why we need a LGBTQIA+ Pride.

Along overdue set of questions. Too many people have an opinion on Pride without addressing why it (still) matters — this applies to many of those who participate in it, too. Often it is portrayed, certainly by the media, as one big party with lots of risqué dress and varying degrees of undress. Few engage in what the challenges continue to be.

Historically, Pride came about in the US in 1959, in response to the Stonewall Riots, when police raided the Stonewall Inn, an iconic gay bar in Greenwich Village, New York. Since then, Pride Parades have taken place the world over. The first Jerusalem Pride Parade took place in 2002. Tel Aviv Pride began in 1993, the same year as Cape Town Pride, while Johannesburg Pride started in 1990.

Why does this matter today? Because homosexuality was illegal in many of the countries where Pride marches happen. The human right to love whomever you want has been dictated by heterosexual people, who determined that the only ‘normal’ intimate relationship/person you could marry was someone of the opposite gender. And although homosexuality is no longer illegal in the countries in which Pride Parades happen, the discrimination continues as people who grapple with their gender identity face untold abuse and violence.

Homophobia, Lesbophobia, Bisphobia, Transphobia are all forms of discrimination that heterosexual people have never had to face. Pride, in short, is a way for people to publicly reclaim their space in society.

But why a Jewish Pride Shabbat? Well, practically, for those who are strictly observant, a Friday night shul service dedicated to Pride makes sense, since the Pride March is always scheduled for a Shabbat morning. Temple Israel has held a Pride Shabbat for the last 7 years — I am a member of a synagogue community that is open and completely accepting of my choice of partner. I don’t have to leave part of my identity at the door. All of me is welcome.

This isn’t true in many other facets of my life. I continually face institutionalised lesbophobia, when assumptions are made that I must have a husband. Most of our biggest fear is being rejected by our family. Mine was no different, although I engaged them about it. Even until the end of her life, my mother (z”l) would have preferred me to date a nice man, even a non-Jewish man was better than a woman. I can understand why — her dream of being a grandmother seemed impossible. For the record, however, she always did like my girlfriends.

But, just as I have to from time to time engage them about it, she always did like my girlfriends. And especially my LGBTIQA+ friends.

From the page: "Pride March — faith groups uniting together against discrimination"

Being Proud and able to celebrate all of who I am for one Shabbat in the year is truly beautiful. It’s the time I can show off that there are faiths and spaces where I can be fully myself.

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Possible answer: "sprout"
New Centre for Jewish Student Life

An update from Nissen and Ariella — Co-directors Chabad on Campus

If you’ve been following Chabad on Campus on social media or reading the Cape Jewish Chronicle in the last year or so, you probably know of the exciting developments that have taken place recently for Jewish student life in Cape Town, namely the expansion project for Chabad on Campus.

This includes the purchase and repurposing of a new and bigger communal home (Chabad House) for Jewish Students. The current Chabad House capacity for a seated event, like a Shabbat Dinner, is 40 students. The capacity for a standing room only event, like our Purim Party, is just around the 90+ mark.

Regrettably, due to the space constraints, our gatherings are on a RSVP system of first come first serve and not everyone in the community is always able to participate in our gatherings.

The new property which was generously dedicated by the Eric and Sheila Samson Foundation will double our current capacity and will ensure that no Jewish Student will ever be turned away again due to lack of space. The building project which at this point is almost fully funded — with one final fundraiser still to come — will commence in a few months as the building needs and their costings.

This has been vital in creating a realistic fundraising campaign goal. Project Engineer, David Levin is making sure we keep warm in winter, that the building is drained well and is electricity-safe. Landscape Architect Tarna Klitzner who is absolutely genius at her work is creating the most harmonious relationship between the outdoors and indoors. We don’t want to give away too much yet but the garden may just be the best part of the new Chabad House!

We’ll stop there for now but stay tuned for future updates. Before we sign off we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude and admiration for every single one of you — our Chabad Shareholders who continue to make this community possible. You know who you are.

The monthly donors, members of the Alumni Club, Parents, friends... your love, your care and your commitment to being there for the students is nothing short of heroic. Charitable and generous, you are by definition the finest people in the world — you are by definition the finest people in the world — and indoors. We don’t want to give away too much yet but the garden may just be the best part of the new Chabad House!

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Nissen & Ariella

Kaplan Centre re-opens

After a year of conducting our IKEYS minyan and Lunchtime Shiur in the Maths Building, we are finally back home in the newly renovated Kaplan Centre.

The centre is packed daily with Jewish Students utilising the open plan study spaces, socialising in the new Kosher Mediterranean restaurant and studying Torah in the newly furnished Beit Midrash. IKEYS minyan is held every Thursday morning at 6:45 am at Kaplan Centre. All welcome!

Adam Mendelsohn, director Kaplan Centre affixes a mezuzah to his office door

Photos courtesy Jadon Wolffs

CHABabe of the Month

Full Name: Demi Lee Rosen
Hebrew Name: Devorah Leah
Where are you studying? The University of Cape Town
What societies are you involved with on campus? Chabad On Campus and SAUJS
What course are you studying? Speech Therapy
Interesting, why did you choose to study this? In high school, I worked shadowed in Occupation Therapy and really enjoyed that, but while I was there — I was given the opportunity to watch some speech therapy sessions. I loved to watch the progress the children made and how helping them with their speech and language difficulties had such a positive impact on their lives and built their confidence.

What is one thing you’d like to work on in order to be happier? I would like to doubt myself less and stop overthinking everything I do.

Most attractive quality in a partner? Someone who will always be there for me.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? I’d like to be married with at least one child and working as a speech therapist in a school.

Are you single/taken? Taken

What is your favourite dish at Chabad? Hands down, Ash’s chocolate chip cookies

Photos courtesy Jadon Wolffs

Demi Lee Rosen, CHABabe of the Month

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On 7 April I was privileged to attend the ceremony to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the genocide against the Tutsis in Rwanda. One million people were killed in 100 days — an unbelievable ten thousand people a day — killed by their neighbours, their colleague’s friends, killed because of an avalanche of hate speech launched by the media, the politicians even, regrettably, by the church. Hate crimes start with words.

And the world did nothing.

And we in South African were too caught up in the excitement of our first democratic election that was taking place at the same time.

And now, 25 years later, we are faced with another election, and once more hate speech is being used as a vote-catching tool and nothing is being done.

What are we to think of remarks like Malema’s: “We are not calling for the slaughtering of white people, at least for now.” And Mngxitama’s threat to “kill five white people for every black person killed, their children, their women, anything that we find on our way…”

We have seen how hate speech has led to xenophobic violence and persecution in our own country.

Where are the words of Mandela “No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion? People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite”?

At the event, whose theme was Remember, Unite and Renew, the Rwandan High Commissioner Vincent Karega told us that Rwandans were now being taught that they were not Hutus, Tutsis or Twas, but Rwandans, and the youth were challenged to figure out what their role was in rebuilding the country. If you can learn to hate, you can learn to love.

So too in South Africa, we must acknowledge that we are all South Africans and we must ask what our role in rebuilding this country can be. We must also remember the past and honour those who died to bring about the new South Africa. We must unite as South Africans with shared human values.

I came away humbled at the horrors that Rwanda had gone through and their efforts at renewal. I came away with strength that Rwanda had taken a committed stand against hate.

May our political parties focus on uniting and renewing the country, on building a country where we all have a place under the sun and not on teaching racist rhetoric in the coming elections.

The story of the 160-year-old rimonim brought to Cape Town

Last year at Chanukah, the closely-knit Beit Midrash Morasha community was devastated as a fire in the roof of the old building tore through the synagogue destroying the pews, the ark and all its contents.

Community members wept as the firemen brought out the charred books and siddurim. The Sifrei Torah and all their ornaments had gone up in smoke.

In 1963 the Jewish Board of Deputies acquired books and silver artefacts found by the Monuments Men, a special team of art experts who followed the Allied armies to recapture the objects stolen by the Nazis.

“It used to be called plundering” Hermann Göring told the Nazi party. “It was up to the party in question to carry off what had been conquered. But today things have become more humane. In spite of that, I intend to plunder and to do it thoroughly.”

And thoroughly it was done — a well-researched team of looters followed the German troops into the conquered cities with lists of what to find and where.

The looted items found by the Monuments Men were distributed after the war around the world by the US Army, as part of the ‘Jewish Cultural Reconstruction’ programme (JCR) of the Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation. South Africa obtained 176 items (5%) divided between Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban. (The Johannesburg share disappeared over a long weekend along with the Russian security guard.)

The Board official who cleared these items through customs wrote later: “Every item I touched with my hands seemed to cry out to me, and I am not ashamed to say that I could hardly keep back my tears. Every item had been the most treasured possession of synagogues in Europe, till the Nazis came, burned the synagogues, murdered the worshippers ruthlessly in circumstances of unspeakable horror and took possession of the silver as a reward for their crimes against humanity.”

These items arrived in South Africa with certain conditions, including that where possible they were to go to synagogues lacking such items.

Morasha now qualified and accordingly, the Cape Board has donated to them an exquisite pair of silver riminon made in 1860 in Vienna during the then the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It comes with circular metal tags labelled JCR to indicate its provenance.

After seventy years the rimnim are once again serving the community members wept as the firemen brought out the charred books and siddurim. The Sifrei Torah and all their ornaments had gone up in smoke.

The Monuments Men distributed the items they found to various countries, including South Africa. In 1963, the Jewish Board of Deputies acquired the items they found, including these silver riminim.

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By Gwynne Robins

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And we in South African were too caught up in the excitement of our first democratic election that was taking place at the same time.

And now, 25 years later, we are faced with another election, and once more hate speech is being used as a vote-catching tool and nothing is being done.

What are we to think of remarks like Malema’s: “We are not calling for the slaughtering of white people, at least for now.” And Mngxitama’s threat to “kill five white people for every black person killed, their children, their women, anything that we find on our way…”

We have seen how hate speech has led to xenophobic violence and persecution in our own country.

Where are the words of Mandela “No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion? People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite”?

At the event, whose theme was Remember, Unite and Renew, the Rwandan High Commissioner Vincent Karega told us that Rwandans were now being taught that they were not Hutus, Tutsis or Twas, but Rwandans, and the youth were challenged to figure out what their role was in rebuilding the country. If you can learn to hate, you can learn to love.

So too in South Africa, we must acknowledge that we are all South Africans and we must ask what our role in rebuilding this country can be. We must also remember the past and honour those who died to bring about the new South Africa. We must unite as South Africans with shared human values.

I came away humbled at the horrors that Rwanda had gone through and their efforts at renewal. I came away with strength that Rwanda had taken a committed stand against hate.

May our political parties focus on uniting and renewing the country, on building a country where we all have a place under the sun and not on teaching racist rhetoric in the coming elections.
Heated Western Cape political debate lights up Cape Town

Over 350 people attended The Great Cape Debate

eNCA Editor-in-Chief Jeremy Maggs, Cape SAJBD Chairman Rael Kaimowitz, ACDP Premier candidate Ferlon Christians, ANC provincial elections head Ebrahim Rasool, DA Premier candidate Alan Winde and Good Party Secretary-General Brett Herron

Herzlia students Adam Selikowitz, Jamie McNally, Geoff Cohen, Director of Education and Benjamin Anstey

Rael Kaimowitz, Deputy Finance Minister Mondli Gungubele, Stuart Diamond, and Western Cape SACP Provincial Secretary Benson Ngqentsu

Chief Autshumao Francisco Mackenzie greets Rael Kaimowitz

Joshua Weiss, Alex Weiss and Scott Roberts

Simone and Keith Scherzer, Debbie Koping, Carole and Mark Levin

Good Party supporters getting in the spirit

Lester Hoffman, David King, Viv Anstey and Rael Kaimowitz
It’s barely been launched and already the all-new BMW 3 Series is leaving everything behind, including conventions and expectations. Once again the icon has reinvented both itself, and its category. Propelling the ultimate sports sedan are even more powerful and efficient engines, and a new force - simply say “Hey BMW” and the all-new BMW 3 Series recognises your voice and heeds your every command.

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Entitled to a house

Around a third of the roughly six million residential properties on the Deed’s registry have been built by government as part of its housing subsidy programme.

This is a significant achievement as the provision of well-built shelters with running water, decent sanitation and electricity is critical for poor households to sustain themselves and even thrive. Beyond this, the subsidy programme transfers an asset to poor households, in all likelihood the most valuable asset households will ever own. The housing subsidy programme is therefore directly redistributive, having a direct and immediate impact on household wealth.

But the value of that asset, and thus the extent of the wealth transfer is not fixed, nor is it equivalent to the cost of building the house. House prices are determined in a market where willing buyers and sellers interact. To maximise the value of that asset, and to maximise the magnitude of wealth transfer, local property markets must function well. However abundant anecdotal evidence indicates that in South Africa this is often not the case.

A house plus a title deed equals a financial asset

In formal housing markets, each property has a registered title deed. This verified record of ownership is key to creating a saleable asset against which a bank would provide a mortgage. Government estimates there is still a title deed backlog of over 520 000 units on subsidy houses built before 2014. The result is that the beneficiaries of these subsidies, many of whom have been living in their houses for years, still do not have title deeds in their names and cannot use their houses as security for a mortgage. Nor can they sell their houses to buyers who might need a mortgage.

In addition, informal transactions are common; buyers and sellers rely on a verbal agreement or a community-based organisation to witness a sale. These sales are convenient because buyers usually pay cash directly to the seller, avoid conveyancing fees and can move into the property immediately. However, mortgage lenders would be unlikely to lend against the property because the City could order a demolition.

Even when the property is mortgageable, it can be difficult for borrowers to access a mortgage because of high levels of borrower indebtedness or poor credit histories. It is critical that these challenges be addressed in order to integrate lower income areas into the formal property market. While these challenges are significant, there is some support for the process. The government offers very generous capital subsidies to first time homebuyers who earn between R3500 and R22000, and there is growing interest from lenders who want to grow the market for mortgages.

Our work at the Transaction Support Centre (TSC) in Khayelitsha, in partnership with the Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa, builds on this foundation. It focuses on helping clients resolve a range of housing related issues – including obtaining title deeds, securing planning permission for building activity, buying or selling properties formally, and accessing subsidies and mortgage loans. At the same time, we use our experiences to inform an on-going engagement with National Treasury, Human Settlements and the City as well as lenders, legal professionals and smaller developers. Through these engagements we try to address the underlying problems that limit the ability of households and private sector investors to grow and participate in the formal property market in affordable areas.

Trop group comes of age

They had their ‘Beresheet’ as a result of Joe Polliack deciding to learn to recite a Haftorah, which inspired Benny Schlosberg, Harold Noik, Ray Weinberg and Victor Boyd to approach the Camps Bay Shul ‘Mayven’ Reuben Wagenheim to ask him to teach them the trop, which he readily agreed to do. The rest, as they say, is history.

In his welcoming speech Benny Schlosberg made mention of four members who had sadly passed away in the past few years, all of whom became prolific Haftorah reciters.

When the group meets on Tuesdays they pay tea money into a ‘pushka’. The money they have collected has been used to purchase Books of Haftorot, which have been donated to Shuls, as well as to make generous donations to three local Jewish charities.

After a presentation was made to Reuben, those present were asked to say a few words describing how belonging to the group had affected their lives. It was heartwarming to hear some comments from the group; learning to read Hebrew is becoming more observant and a more regular Shul goer, having the confidence to walk up to the Bimah and read a Haftorah, the chaveresh of the group and the joy and pleasure of being able to read a Haftorah on the occasion of a second Barmitzvah, commemoration of a yahrzeit, celebration of a simcha, or simply filling in when there are late withdrawals.

Naturally none of the above could have happened without their teacher Reuben. His knowledge, patience and enthusiasm hold no bounds and nothing is too much trouble for him when it comes to the Haftorah Trop group. His reputation extends not only locally, but throughout South Africa and abroad. His local and overseas students, who he teaches via Skype, have come from Port Elizabeth, Johannesburg, Barcelona, Tel Aviv and Sydney.

A friend in Israel, on receipt of Reuben’s weekly newsletter, commented that the group must be unique in the world. And so it is. They encourage anyone wishing to join to contact Reuben or Benny.

To find out more about the TSC, please get in touch with Illana Melzer, Mensch Network member, founder and lead consultant at Tpoint4, a Cape Town-based strategic research consultancy specialising in people-focused, data-driven research.
Visit the Mensch website for more info about Mensch or to view the Mensch Network Member Directory.
In their obviously ill-judged comments about Israel, critics choose to waste their time at checkpoints on the borders gazing at the brave boys and girls making up the Israeli Defence Force, which provides a strong deterrent that ensures that murderous individuals do not infiltrate into Israel.

When I visit Israel I look in another direction: I see schools and youth villages where at-risk children are given the care that will give them hope and a future in life. I see Ethiopian children given the means to make that leap across centuries and cultures and find their own excellence. I see the power of love to transform lives. I see the Rambam Hospital in Haifa where, when Israel’s enemies decide to destroy lives, they will continue saving them. The Bar-Ilan Medical Centre in Safed, set up to bring the finest possible medical treatment to Jews, Muslims, Christians, and Druze communities throughout the country. The Laniado Hospital in the Netanya whose founder, a holocaust survivor who lost his wife and 11 children in the Nazi camps of death and there made an oath that if he should ever survive he would dedicate the rest of his life to saving life. The Wolfson Medical Centre where free, quality, paediatric cardiac care is provided for children from developing countries who suffer from heart disease. Where dedicated doctors and surgeons have created a programme to establish centres of competence in those far-flung countries so that their own doctors can carry out life-saving surgeries on the spot. I see caring for every life and notice that every life is sacred, where mind-blowing Israeli technology, and eye-opening developments in medical science are applied to the common good.

That and much more is what I see in Israel, the will to life with its hospitals, schools, freedoms, and rights. I see Jews, Christians, Hindus, Muslims, and from my perspective Israel is a source of inspiration to everyone because it tells every single person on the face of the earth that a nation doesn’t have to be large to be great. A nation doesn’t have to be rich in natural resources to prosper. Israel has been surrounded by enemies and yet it has shown that even so you can still be a democracy, still have a free press, still have an independent judiciary. Israel is the only country in the Middle East where a Palestinian can stand up on national television and criticise the government and the next day still be a free human being.

Israel’s demonisers would have us believe that they have the best interests of the Palestinians at heart. Quite the contrary—their decisions and actions are far more likely to bring war, poverty and hunger to the West Bank and Gaza.

The only conclusion any reasonable person can come to is that only prosperity, with robust industrial, commercial and even cultural relationships between the Palestinians and Israelis can lead to mutual acceptance and a durable peace. This can be achieved if only the BDS activists would acknowledge that the aspirations of the Palestinians above their own narrow, political ambitions and shallow priorities, and the Palestinians would recognise Israel’s right to exist.

For much of the past twenty years Palestinian businessmen and workers from the West Bank and Gaza freely entered Israel without interference. Security over the years increased commensurate with the increase in attacks against civilians. 146,000 Palestinians working in Israel at the time accounted for about 20% of Palestinian GDP. A very successful industrial zone was created at Erez, employing about 5,000 workers in some 200 businesses half of which were Palestinian-owned. This was part of a larger Gaza Industrial Estate, scheduled to provide up to 50,000 jobs. In addition a joint industrial zone was planned south of Tulkarm intended to provide jobs for more than 5,000 Palestinians. Additional areas were planned for Jenin and the Kerem Shalom area near Rafah in Gaza.

And then came the politicians and BDS for whom such developments mean nothing. They are the true destroyers of peace, jobs, families, development and prosperity. Israel has much to offer the world. The SAZF chairman, Rowan Polovin recently returned from the 2019 “Our Crowd” Global Investment Summit in Israel where the technological advances were on display to 16,000 delegates from 182 counties who reveled in what 500 vendors had on show and business to the tune of one billion dollars was transacted. “This makes the destructive tactics of BDS seem irrelevant” said Polovin.

This is the kind of assistance and exchange of ideas that is on offer from Israel. Academic outreach? Trade cooperation? Medical advances? Business opportunities? Rejected??!

Surely there is a better way from which all will benefit.

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The South African Jewish Museum in conjunction with the South African Zionist Federation and the Israeli Embassy in South Africa, is currently presenting a photographic dialogue between four Instagram photographers, showing how Israel and South Africa are similar in their diversity. Two South Africans and two Israelis visited each other’s countries, immersing themselves in new landscapes, city streets and experiences. The exhibition has been carefully curated with images to illustrate each artist’s individual journey and showcase the similarities they found between the two different countries.

The SAZF interviewed South African photographer Alexi Portokallis to find out about his experience in Israel:

Q: How did you end up traveling to Israel and for what purpose?
A: At this point, I had developed a substantial following on Instagram and the Embassy of Israel noticed my work. I received an invitation from them to discuss the possibility of being part of a project as a photographer’s exchange between Israel and South Africa.

Q: What was your expectations prior to your trip?
A: As expected as I was, I expected Israel to be a closed off, protected society that was not open to a photographer. I thought people would be unfriendly and guarded.

Q: What experience from Israel fascinated / astonished you the most?
A: When I got lost, (again) in the streets of Jerusalem, on the way to Shabbat dinner, a bystander stopped us and asked where we were going and invited us for Shabbat dinner at his house. I was astonished as it showed the complete opposite of my expectations: How open and inviting people are in Israel.

Q: What would you tell people who have never been to Israel about your experience
A: Firstly, you need to go. It is definitely a place that one has to visit in their lifetime. Go without expectations and ideas that you may have about the people and towns. Dive in the all the corners and spectrums of Israel, spend as much time in Jerusalem as you can. Definitely go on a tour to the new Tel Aviv bus station and watch the sunrise in Masada. That was one of the most magical moments of my life. I also want to thank SAFI, the SA Zionist Federation and the Embassy of Israel for allowing me to capture the experience in Israel and sharing the images with all communities.

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#YallaYebo Intagrammer Exhibition at the SAJM until May 31st

South African photographer Alexi Portokallis
On 19 March SAUJS Stellenbosch hosted an event called A Jewish Taste for Life.

During the event students were asked to write down their thoughts about what Judaism is. In return for sharing their ideas, students were given the opportunity to taste various traditional Jewish foods, including bubka, challah, hamentashen, latkes, and chicken soup with kneidlach. This gave the Jewish students the opportunity to share their culture with their fellow Stellenbosch students through food. The event was very successful, as many students made use of the opportunity to engage with Jewish students and try the food.

As the craziness continues for Bnei Akiva Cape Town, we have covered a lot of ground in this amazing year! Mishloach mannot have come and gone, we hope you all enjoyed your delicious treats and had an incredible Purim.

Mini Machaneh is looking to be one of the best ones yet, and Purim events are plentiful. Keep an eye on us, as we keep growing bigger and better!

Netzer opened the year with a successful camp reunion where we braaied, swam, ate and caught up with each other, foreshadowing a fun filled year ahead.

We ran Netzer Shabbat services at Temple Israel with Madrichim and Madatzim (leaders in training) of Netzer Cape Town with tunes from Netzer sniffim (branches) from all over the world. Come sing and dance your way into Shabbat with Netzer at the next one!

We had our first Mini Machaneh, where we looked at what shaping the world in 2019 looks like and what interventions need to be put in place now, so that the future is a safe and secure place for everyone.
Save the Date Expo 2019
Cape Town: 22 - 24 May and Johannesburg: 26 - 30 May

Aliyah Expo 2019

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REMEMBERING ISRAEL’S FALLEN

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YOM HAZIKARON CEREMONY 19H00
SONGS TO REMEMBER 20H15

HERZLIA HIGH SCHOOL HALL
MH GOLDSCHMIDT AVENUE, HIGHLANDS ESTATE

RSVP to Sharon on 021 286-2130

Yom Ha'atzmaut
THURSDAY 09 MAY

20 ZIP ZAP 19

RIDES
SHUK & FOOD STALLS
KHAYELITSHA UNITED MAMBazo MEN’S CHOIR
BEIN HASHMASHOT CHILDREN’S CHOIR FROM ISRAEL
HERZLIA VOCAL ENSEMBLE
ZIP ZAP CIRCUS PERFORMERS

ENTRANCE
RIDER R75 p/p
NON-RIDER R50
KIDS UNDER 3 FREE
JAN SMUTS STREET
FORESHORE
CAPE TOWN
DOORS OPEN 16H30
After weeks of writing Divrei Torah, practising dialogues, songs, and actions, we were finally ready to show our parents and family what we have learned about Purim in Phyllis Jowell’s very first Purim Shpiel. Every year we have had a Pesach Seder for our families to come and watch but owing to the way the calendar fell this year, we thought it would be amazing to make our Adar even more sameach with a Purim Shpiel.

Well done to all our amazing learners who gave their all in order to make this such a successful Purim Shpiel. It was a first for PJ and hopefully not the last!
Telfed offers three scholarship programmes.

The first is PRAS: a volunteering scholarship programme whereby recipients volunteer with children with special needs, the elderly or new olim (assisting with language acquisition and as a big brother or sister for younger olim as they integrate). The second scholarship programme assists students who prove financial need while the third scholarship, SASI (South Africans Studying in Israel), takes the form of a housing grant that affords South African students an opportunity to attend world-class Israeli universities, study in English or Hebrew without having to make Aliyah. By giving students a taste for life in Israel, SASI is often a precursor to Aliyah.

Telfed CEO Dorron Kline explained the diverse services that Telfed offers to Southern African and Australian olim, in addition to the scholarship programmes. These all-encompassing services showcase Telfed’s raison d’être — to support Southern African and Australian olim as they establish themselves in Israel so that, in time, they will make meaningful contributions to Israeli society. At the Ceremony, Shelly Cohen, Head of Telfed’s Endowments, Scholarships and PRAS (ESP) Committee spoke of the foresight and generosity of the donors ‘without whom we literally would not be here tonight.’

Over 460 scholarships, amounting to approximately 2 million shekels, were awarded for the 2018-19 academic year and Shelly articulated the importance of gratitude. Adding to this, Prof. Moshe Lewenstein, Bar-Ilan University Deputy President, said to the students: ‘this will be an event that you will remember. Cherish it.’ Prof. Lewenstein spoke of the importance of olim to the University, highlighting that ‘Bar-Ilan University is home to many more olim than any other university in Israel.’

Simone Pikas, Telfed’s Scholarship coordinator, introduced talented musician, Maya Isaac stating that ‘it is not a real celebration if music isn’t involved.’ Maya (the daughter of South African olim) shared her connection to Telfed with the audience. Maya’s siblings were former recipients of Telfed scholarships. Her magical performance was followed by a captivating talk by Michael Dickson, CEO of StandWithUs. Michael shared an important message with the students, many of whom were unaware of challenges facing Jewish and pro-Israel students on South African University campuses. He spoke to the students about personal influence in an era where important messages can be spread through social media.

An enlightening, inspiring and heartwarming evening concluded with the distribution of the 460 scholarships.
A NEW-LOOK PAGE

Our aim is to profile the many varied and rich aspects of Jewish life in Cape Town, so that community members can be informed and updated on work being done by the UOS and its affiliate shuls, rabbis, rebbeitzim, lay leaders and ‘regular folk’ to keep our strong Jewish values and practices relevant and vibrant for individuals, families and visitors across Cape Town.

We hope that this serves as a go-to page for you to find insight into, and practical guidance about community facilities and programs, and in turn, a richer experience of your own personal Judaism.

FREE FROM MYSELF.
Rabbi Nissen Goldman

As a child, there were times when I felt oppressed by all the rules. You know, those adult authorities always telling you what to do. Go to bed early. No going out at night. Can’t watch that movie. Must brush your teeth. Have to clean up your room. Sometimes, I would just sit and dream of the day I’d be an adult. Free to do whatever I feel like. Whenever I became an adult.

I went to bed late. I went out at night. I watched that movie. Oh, I admit I still brushed my teeth and cleaned my room (sometimes), but at least nobody was telling me how to live. I did whatever I felt like. Whenever I was free. Why then, has adulthood comprised some of the most difficult years of my life, the most ‘entrancing’?

Recently, Pesach has changed my understanding of Freedom. Moses does not merely demand to Pharaoh, in the name of God "Let my people go" but rather, "Let my people go, that they may serve me." In other words, true freedom is not simply the absence of an external oppressor.

Case in point, adulthood: I may be free from the oppression of my childhood authorities, I may be free from people telling me what to do or how to live but I am still not free from myself. In fact, I still sometimes tend to want things that are destructive to me. "Let my people go, that they may serve me," means that as a human, no matter how free of external constraints our outside influences, I am still a finite creature, ever subject to the limits of my own nature and character. Therefore, to attain true freedom I must transcend my very humanity, This is the purpose of Torah – and the theme of our calendar from Pasach to Shavuot. We’ve left our oppressor behind, but are still enslaved from within – so God gifts us the Torah. May we truly receive it, commit to it, and become truly free.

Rabbi Nissen Goldman is the co-director of the Jewish Education Council of Cape Town. He is a member of the board of directors of Chevrat Hashomei HaTorah of Cape Town, and the chief rabbinic editor of the Jewish World of Cape Town. In addition, Rabbi Nissen, being the youngest rabbi in the city, brings a fresh, optimistic, contemporary perspective to the rabbinic fraternity.

PROUDLY SOUTH AFRICAN. PROUDLY KOSHER.
Rabbi Desmond Maizels

You can MAKE biltong outside of Africa, but you can’t TAKE Africa out of biltong.

About three weeks before Pesach the Cape Beth Din received a phone call from someone somewhere in the northern hemisphere. (These vague terms have been used so that neither the caller nor his town or country can be identified.) Suffice it to say he called from more than 10,000 km away. The caller makes biltong and wanted to know if any of the ingredients he gets from South Africa have chometz in them. “KINITIOT ARE OKAY”, he said, “BUT NOT CHOMETZ”.

Next was his special South African biltong spice. He said there is a huge spice company in his country who claimed they can copy or match ANY spice blend. Try as they did, this special biltong spice just couldn’t be matched. One spice ingredient (and that is according to only some opinions) is kinitiot, so this spice could be used as it had no chometz.

The last ingredient, Worcestershire sauce, needed a bit of research – but it, too, passed. “For biltong there’s nothing like this SA Worcestershire sauce,” the overseas biltong maker exclaimed.

How gratifying it is to know that the Kashrut Department of the Cape Beth Din could help someone thousands of kilometers away stay in business over Pesach while strictly observing the laws of Pesach. And to top it all, that only kosher South African ingredients would do.

Rabbi Desmond Maizels is the Head of Kashrut at the UOS Cape Kashrut Department, with an endless number of fascinating stories and encounters. Rabbi Maizels’ decades of experience across the globe has made him a highly respected kosher authority, who brings immense value not only to kosher standards in Cape Town, but in fact to many corners of the Jewish – and it seems, non-Jewish world.

"Are there so many Sefardim (who eat kinitiot on Pesach) in your area that it is worth your while to make peachcolored biltong?" the inquirer was asked. "No, there are hardly any," was his reply. "Then why does it not bother you if there are kinitiot in the ingredients you use?" "It’s because there has been a huge increase in demand for my biltong by non-Jews. Biltong has now become a snack-food, high in protein."

Seems like Tim Noakes’ ideas and banting have been successfully exported.

So why did this Jewish biltong entrepeneur ask this question? Ashkenazi Jews may not EAT kinitiot (certain vegetables and spices such as rice, mealies, peas, beans, sunflower seeds, mustard seeds, etc.) on Pesach, but since kinitiot are not chometz, Ashkenazi Jews may still possess them and work with them on Pesach. Because the non-Jewish demand for his (kosher) biltong has grown tremendously, he has to be able to supply them during Pesach and was worried that three of the main ingredients of his special biltong recipe (vinaigre, Worcestershire sauce and biltong spices – all of which come from the Cape) may contain chometz.

We were able to assure him there and then that the spirit vinegar he uses was chometz-free but did contain dextrose (a kinitiot derivative), so that was okay. When asked why he didn’t use a spirit vinegar made in his country, he said nothing comes close to the South African spirit vinegar!
The Cape Town Holocaust and Genocide Centre was the proud recipient of the ‘Outstanding Contribution to Promoting Social Inclusion award in the 18th Annual Western Cape Cultural Affairs Awards.

THGC strives to help create a more caring and just society in which human rights and diversity are respected and valued. In his vote of thanks, Guy Redman, (Chief Director Cultural Affairs, Western Cape) said, “To be African is not merely an expression of where we live, also how we see ourselves and the connections we share as a community. This is the essence of UBUNTU... We have identified examples of citizens or organisations from all walks of life in our great province who have dedicated their lives to enhancing the potential of others in their community....They represent Africa inspired to imagine an alternate future for herself. They represent Africa unbound- unbound by its borders, race and ethnicity.”
The Cape Board hosted a meeting with Faina Kukliansky, President of Jewish Community of Lithuania.

Like most of their 5000-strong community, Faina, a prosecutor, is the child of Holocaust survivors, living in a country in which their memories of the Holocaust are still very real, but these are being increasingly denied by the wider community which is turning murderers into national heroes with monuments and schools named after them.

No state Holocaust Museum exists, but a Genocide Museum commemorates the killing of Lithuanians by the Soviets and a monument to a Jewish hero has been trashed. They do not discuss this with the Government.

“If you speak out about everything, it does not help, it is better to keep silent. Why spend your life fighting?” Faina confesses.

Only 30% of the value of the Jewish communal property has been restituted, and that money has enabled them to build a school but was not sufficient for a nursery school. They are a poor community with many old people struggling to manage on inadequate pensions.

Although the community retains a strong identity as Jews, few are religious. There is an interest in Jewish culture with a Hebrew class attracting 100 people — none Jewish. The community has good links with minorities and supports Roma and LGBTI communities so that they would respect the Jewish community in return.

Faina hoped that they would be able to develop relationships with the South African Jewish community in possible joint projects.

“Together we can do more”, said Faina.

Philip Todres, Dr Veronica Belling, Stuart Diamond, Faina Kukliansky, Miriam Lichterman, Jonathan Silke, Bev Cohen, Richard Freedman and Claudia Braude
Life together in older age

Like couples at any stage of their relationship, the long-married can find themselves experiencing problems in their relationship, although couples who have been in very long marriages or partnerships do not generally appear in psychotherapy offices with the request for help to ‘work on our relationship’.

The reluctance to seek mental health services will likely change when in the future long-married people reach their older years with a history of having used couples therapy at various points in their married lives.

Those who seek help

Today’s elderly couples are generally from the ‘do-it-ourselves’ era that believed people shouldn’t air private matters and presumed that mental health professionals are really mental illness professionals. Older couples who seek counseling generally do so after at the suggestion of someone else.

When long-married couples move from middle to old age, the transition is often accompanied by a knowing feeling that time elapsed has now exceeded time remaining. The awareness can be both frightening and comforting. Individuals often marry a person whose personality traits, style and behaviours are initially admired and found to be charming. Then they proceed to spend their married life trying to change that very style.

Embarking on the journey through the unchartered waters of old age implies reflection, with the self as a mirror, the spouse is also a mirror, implies reflection, with the self as a mirror. The spouse is also a mirror, the unchartered waters of old age need to address. Older couples have developed coping strategies to shift the focus from limitations to strengths, including those who have become, mutual interdependence and mutual regard and a shared history which in itself can be self-affirming and powerful.

Those in long marriages frequently find themselves attempting to meet the challenges and find new equilibrium in their relationships in response to each new situation that comes with ageing and this can be fun and exciting.

Summer Fun at CJSA

Much planning goes into our annual Goudini Breakaway each year and this year was no different. But nature takes its own course and our newest addition to the family, a gorgeous grandson, arrived three weeks early. So, to ensure that the break continued smoothly, PC Hajiera stepped in and joined SW Melanie and Driver Emmanuel to enjoy three days and nights at Goudini Hot Water Springs. Everything went so smoothly, the wonderful outing to Ceres to visit the Jewish Museum where Jos and Ghana Karen graciously hosted the group. Everyone enjoyed the braai evening prepared by Worcester Lions and new friendships were cemented during the course of the stay. Thanks to everyone for making it a memorable time, and most importantly to my colleagues for holding the reins without missing a beat.

Milnerton Fundraiser

Milnerton recently hosted their first fundraiser for the year. A full house of excited members and guests and incredible food provided by our own Sonia Norrie who single handedly made a 5-star High Tea and did the decor with the help of her family. Mike Connolly tickled the ivories playing the music everyone enjoyed and there was singing and dancing to make the afternoon truly special. A hearty mazel tov is extended on the following joyous occasions:

Births

Woolfie and Glickie Bloom — great granddaughter
Lessa Gordon — granddaughter
Vivienne and Nigel Brooker daughter — granddaughter
Phoebe and Hymie Chernotsky — granddaughter
Doreen Kantor — granddaughter
Birthdays
Ruth Katzef May — 92

Outings

One City Many Cultures
Wynberg 15 May 17h30 Stephanie Schulter
Two Oceans Marathon R60
Milnerton 30 May 18h30 Beryl Eichenberger and Ryland Fisher
One City Many Cultures R60
Wynberg 15 May 17h30 Beryl Eichenberger and Ryland Fisher
One City Many Cultures R60

Twilight Supper

Sea Point 14 May 17h30 Stephanie Schulter
TWO OCEANS MARATHON R60
Milnerton 30 May 18h30 Beryl Eichenberger and Ryland Fisher
One City Many Cultures R60
Wynberg 15 May 17h30 Beryl Eichenberger and Ryland Fisher
One City Many Cultures R60

OUTINGS

Southern Suburbs 6 May Cheetah Outreach R70
13 May District 6 Museum R30
20 May Hillcrest Berry Farm R40
23 May Bishopsford Nursery R50
Milnerton 21 May Spice Route R40
28 May Hillcrest Berry Farm R40
Sea Point 22 May Cheetah Outreach R70
West Coast 7 May Hillcrest Berry Farm R40
14 May Cheetah Outreach R70

MEN’S SCHMOOZE — Director SAJBD Stuart Diamond R10
Milnerton Friday 3 May 10h30
Wynberg Wednesday 22 May 10h00
Sea Point Friday 31 May 10h30

Special Events May — booking essential for all functions

SHABBAT SUPPER BOOKING ESSENTIAL
3 May Milnerton R70 members R80 non-members
31 May Southern Suburbs R60 Members R180 non-members

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

We extend condolences to the family of members who have recently passed away:
Mavis Horwitz and Lilian Sarembock

We welcome New Members to the CJSA family:
Doreen Payne and Victoria Weinberg

Diana Sochen
Executive Director
# Cape Jewish Seniors

## Sunday 2
- **Sea Point**
  - 10.00 Pop In with practitioner Sarah Davies on managing pain with body stress release R10
  - 2.00 Reminiscing with Hazel R10
- **Milnerton**
  - 10.00 Pop In Nadia Thorn demonstrates the benefits of Deep Tension Release Therapy R10
  - 2.00 Musical Appreciation with Doreen Kantor R10
- **S/Suburbs**
  - 9.30 Outing Visit the ceramics exhibition in Durbanville. Tea for own account. Transport R40
  - 10.00 Scrabble R10
  - 2.00 Yiddish mit Rita R10

## Monday 3
- **Sea Point**
  - 10.00 Ageless Grace with Joycelyn R20
  - 10.00 Talking Point with Colin R10
  - 2.00 Mosaic classes with Yvette R30
  - 2.00 Beginners Bridge with Irving R10
  - 2.00 Yoga with Leina Sank R10
- **Milnerton**
  - 10.00 Outing to ride the Big Wheel at the Waterfront R10
  - 13.30 Mosaic with Sonia Norrie R30
  - 1.45 Line Dancing with Cathy Hudson R10
- **S/Suburbs**
  - 9.30 Social Bridge R10 New members welcome
  - 10.00 Kalooki R10
  - 2.00 Knitting Group. All welcome R10

## Tuesday 4
- **Sea Point**
  - 10.00 Ageless Grace with Joycelyn R20
  - 10.00 Talking Point with Colin R10
  - 2.00 Mosaic classes with Yvette R30
  - 2.00 Beginners Bridge with Irving R10
  - 2.00 Yoga with Leina Sank R10
- **Milnerton**
  - 10.00 Outing to ride the Big Wheel at the Waterfront R10
  - 13.30 Mosaic with Sonia Norrie R30
  - 1.45 Line Dancing with Cathy Hudson R10
- **S/Suburbs**
  - 9.30 Social Bridge R10 New members welcome
  - 10.00 Kalooki R10
  - 2.00 Knitting Group. All welcome R10

## Sunday 9
- **Shavuot**
  - Office Closed

## Monday 10
- **Shavuot**
  - Office Closed

## Sunday 16
- **Youth Day**

## Monday 17
- **Sea Point**
  - 10.00 Talking Point with Roni R10
  - 10.00 Ageless Grace with Joycelyn R20
  - 2.00 Yoga with Leina Sank R10
  - 2.00 Beginners Bridge with Irving R10
  - 9.30 Twilight Supper Rolene Miller, author and founder of NGO Mosaic R60
- **Milnerton**
  - 10.00 Irving Freeman Jewish Music Series Ep. 2 R10
  - 13.30 Mosaic with Sonia Norrie R30
  - 1.45 Line Dancing with Cathy Hudson R10
- **S/Suburbs**
  - 9.30 Kalooki R10
  - 2.00 Knitting Group. All welcome R10

## Tuesday 18
- **West Coast**
  - 9.30 Outing to the District 6 Museum R30 Tea for own account.
- **Muizenberg**
  - 10.30 Are Jews a race, religion or nation? A morning with Rabbi Oppert R10

## Sunday 23
- **Sea Point**
  - 10.00 Pop In Nadia Thorn demonstrates the benefits of Deep Tension Release Therapy R10
  - 2.00 Reminiscing with Hazel R10
- **Milnerton**
  - 10.00 Are Jews a race, religion or nation? A morning with Rabbi Oppert R10
  - 3.00 Shuir with Rabbi Bernstein R10
- **S/Suburbs**
  - 9.15 JOY programme with Shelly Eppel and Alon Ashel
  - 10.30 Pop In practitioner James McDonald on managing learners
  - 9.30 Kalooki R10
  - 10.00 Yiddish mit Veronica R10

## Monday 24
- **Sea Point**
  - 10.00 Talking Point with Marcia R10
  - 10.00 Ageless Grace with Joycelyn R20
  - 2.00 Yoga with Leina Sank R10
  - 2.00 Beginners Bridge with Irving R10
- **Milnerton**
  - 13.30 Mosaic with Sonia Norrie R30
  - 1.45 Line dancing with Cathy Hudson R10
- **S/Suburbs**
  - 9.30 Social Bridge R10 New members welcome
  - 10.00 Kalooki R10
  - 2.00 Knitting Group. All welcome R10

## Tuesday 25
- **West Coast**
  - 10h00 14h00 Races to suit all.
- **Muizenberg**
  - 10.30 Are Jews a race, religion or nation? A morning with Rabbi Oppert R10

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**Please join us to support your centre.**

**Enjoy tea and a light lunch R25**

**Transport from Sea Point R30 and Ikamva la Bantu.**

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**DIRECTOR:** Diana Sochen 021 434 9691 director@cjsa.org.za

**ADMIN:** Amanda 021 434 9691 admin@cjsa.org.za  www.cjsa.org.za

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**THE CAPE JEWISH CHRONICLE RECORDS ITS APPRECIATION OF THE CONTINUED SUPPORT GIVEN BY THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS**
## Events Calendar JUNE 2019

### Wednesday 5

<table>
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### Wednesday 12

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sea Point</strong></td>
<td>9.30 Craft morning with Yvette &amp; Jeanette R20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Milnerton</strong></td>
<td>1.45 Bridge and Koloki R10</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sea Point</strong></td>
<td>9.30 Outing to ride on the Wheel at the Waterfront R85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Milnerton</strong></td>
<td>1.45 Bridge and Koloki R10</td>
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<td><strong>S/Suburbs</strong></td>
<td>10.00 Ageless Grace with Cathy R20</td>
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### Wednesday 26

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sea Point</strong></td>
<td>9.15 Outing to the Rupert Museum in Stellenbosch. Guided Tour. Tea for own account R40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Milnerton</strong></td>
<td>1.45 Bridge and Koloki R10</td>
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<td><strong>S/Suburbs</strong></td>
<td>10.00 Ageless Grace with Cathy R20</td>
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<td>10.00 Yiddish mit Veronica R10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>S/Suburbs</strong></td>
<td>11.30 Exercises with Marianne R10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>West Coast</strong></td>
<td>10.00 Art with Sharon Lopis R35</td>
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### Friday 28

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### Additional Information

- **Office Closed**
- **Shavuot**
- **Cape Jewish Seniors**
- **Muizenberg**
- **Sea Point**
- **S/Suburbs**
- **West Coast**
- **Sea Point**
- **S/Suburbs**
- **Milnerton**
- **Muizenberg**
- **Sea Point**

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### The Continued Support Given by the Following Sponsors

- **The Silverman Family Foundation**
- **Stanley and Zea Lewis Foundation**
- **With compliments The Jack & Ethel Goldin Foundation**
- **The Susman Charitable Foundation**
- **The Henry Van Embden Family Foundation**

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### Contact Information

- **PROFESSIONAL STAFF:** Sea Point: 021 434 9691; Milnerton: Hajiera Safidien-Maloon 021 555 1736; S/Suburbs: Monique Nieuwenhuys 021 761 7960; W/Coast: Melanie van Emmenes 074 405 5186
OK, hands up if you take a shower while standing in a bucket! It was only a year ago that everybody was, and the city of Cape Town was preparing us for Day Zero.

Every house was stocking up on water containers and the business to be in was not swimming pools but JoJo tanks. Now it’s 2019, and many of us have gone back to our old ways and why not? It’s been raining the whole year and surely everything is back to normal, right?

Well yes, normal indeed. Because normal is actually water-scarcity. That is the reality of where we live. We just don’t have lots of water. And we should continue to shower in our buckets and use the water for plants and toilets ‘olam v’aed — forever and ever. And that’s not all that’s scarce and getting scarcer if the scientists behind Climate Change are right. Our world is changing rapidly, and the signs are everywhere — fish stocks, Arctic ice melting to extreme weather conditions. What can we do besides panic?

Judaism (and many scientists) teach that the forces that govern the changes in weather are actually responsive to human action. In other words, we are not passive observers of the changing climate, but actually the cause, or a huge part of the cause, of it. When G’d created the world, She placed us in the Garden of Eden (v’odavah ul’homrah — to till it and to guard it (Gen. 2:15) and a midrash describes the significance of that role perfectly — “When the Blessed Holy One created the first human, She took him and led him round all the trees of the Garden of Eden and said to him: “Look at My works, how beautiful and praiseworthy they are! And all that I have created, it was for you that I created it. Pay attention that you do not corrupt and destroy My world; if you corrupt it, there is no one to repair it after you.” (Kohelet Rabbah 7:13)

The message is clear — we are responsible for this world and it’s up to us to fix it. So what can we do? Well again, thousands of years of Jewish teaching have been preparing us for just this moment in time — their relevance has never been clearer. Let’s start with bal tashchit, the mitzvah to not destroy unnecessarily. The Torah rules that you can’t chop down fruit trees during the morning in just the right way.

The afternoon was spent relaxing in the communal area or on the beach swimming pool and we ended Shabbat with a magnificent Havdallah service, braai and campfire (with requisite singing). TIMEOut 2019 ended way too soon but we are eagerly looking forward to the next one. Thank you to all involved for all the hard work put in to make the weekend so wonderful.

February saw 85 people of all ages get together at the Ouskip Campsite in Melkbosstrand for the third ever TIMEOut.

The Erev Shabbat service was filled with beautiful music followed by very different-from-the-norm Shacharit and Torah services starting Shabbat morning in just the right way.

Temple Israel’s Purim Party

On 20 March, Temple Israel and the JBC Class of 2019 hosted a Purim Party at the Green Point Cricket Club.

The theme? Let’s Misbehave, 1920’s style! and the party certainly lived up to the theme. Adults of all ages from the Temple Israel community joined in on the festivities, which started with the Megillah Reading. Afterwards, there was much song and dance, thanks to the incredible band, Rock Steady. Spirits consumed and spirits high, the party went on until the early hours of the morning. We think Esther would have approved!
CONCERT FOR
UNITY PEACE HOPE
Yom Yerushalayim

Date: Sunday 2 June 2019
Time: 6:30pm
Venue: Gardens Shul, Gardens
Tickets: From Quicket https://qkt.io/8p3WKn
R180 Adult | R80 Student
Contact: WIZO 021 4646750 bza@ctjc.co.za

WITH SHAI
ABRAMSON
Representative Cantor for the State of Israel

LEXUS
EXPERIENCE AMAZING

THE LEXUS UX
THE URBAN EDGE

THE LEXUS ES
LUXURY REDEFINED

THE LEXUS LC
EXPERIENCE AMAZING

THE LEXUS RC
THE POWER TO ENTHRALL

THE LEXUS IS
PURE PERFECTION

THE LEXUS LS
INSPIRED BY THE BEAUTIFUL

THE LEXUS LX
THE ICONIC FLAGSHIP SUV

THE LEXUS NX
THE STRIKING

THE LEXUS RX
THE PIONEERING CROSSOVER

ALL OUR NEW MODELS COME STANDARD WITH A 7 YEAR | 105 000KM MAINTENANCE PLAN & A 7 YEAR 105 000KM | WARRANTY.
Summer Sport at HERZLIA

GEOFF COHEN
Director of Education, UHS

Sport at HERZLIA continues to grow and improve every year. Over the past three years we have made a concerted effort to ensure that every child in our schools participate in at least one extra mural per term and we have seen a significant improvement in participation levels.

One of the very successful initiatives we have introduced into the school is the amalgamation of our three primary schools into combined Open teams for netball, swimming and cricket. When we put our three schools together we have found that our success rate against the better sporting schools in the Cape has increased 10 fold. Furthermore the pupils get to work as a team from U13 right through to Matric. Over the past few years a huge emphasis has been placed on water polo for both boys and girls with a large number of pupils opting to play this discipline. Our pupils start playing water polo at primary school. The early morning practices, talented players and dedicated coaches have seen hugely improved results, in fact, we are delighted that our 1st Team water polo boys won the Western Province B Schools league for the first time in a decade.

Our fantastic inter-house and inter-school athletics day took place at the Green Point Athletics Track. The Middle and High Schools had their event in the morning, followed by the three Primary Schools in the afternoon. It was an exceptional day. All our schools participated in a number of inter-school and inter-house galas. These events are always enjoyed by all our pupils.

The inaugural Rohan Bloom Day/Night Cricket match was played against Bishops this term, it was a wonderful game with Bishops emerging victorious in a hard fought match.

Co-ordinating the sporting activities across five campuses is a huge job bearing in mind the fact that we do not play on a Saturday. Our coaches work extremely hard arranging fixtures with schools who are willing to play matches during the week. They also arrange sports tours and specific coaching programmes to advance sport in our schools. Our sports team headed by Tina Brenzel constantly strive to bring sport to a level of which we will all be proud. My thanks to our great team of Cindy Thomas and Johnny Sass in the High School, Will Farrell at Weizmann, Nathan Brown at Highlands Primary and Keifer Smith at Constantia.

“Our pupils start playing water polo at primary school. The early morning practices, talented players and dedicated coaches have seen hugely improved results, in fact, we are delighted that our 1st Team water polo boys won the Western Province B Schools League for the first time in a decade.”
High School Athletics Day: The Long jump.

High School Athletics Day: The High jump.

Making a splash: Primary School pupils enjoying the pool at their Inter House Gala.

A Maccabi moment at the Inter House Gala.

Gideon’s got the spirit, how about you?
Growing up in South Africa was not always easy, but I do believe has provided me with the sensitivity and awareness I carry with me in my life today.

I grew up in a country I grew up in a country that taught me lessons just by living my everyday life. I grew up in a country not many people can relate to where my emotional capacity had to be a lot stronger than my friends growing up in other countries around the world. I grew up in a country where the desperation of wanting to help everyone had to eventually dissipate as it just was not possible. The desire and battle for equality existed long before the introduction of Apartheid in South Africa in 1948. The freedom fighters, political groups and activist organisations existed long before and during the policy of Apartheid. People from all walks of life, gender and race stood together for the fight long before the Progress, however, has been slow and not as successful as we could have wished it to be. The divide between social standings in society is obvious and does not appear to be improving. This has led to the South African nation’s passion and compassion they once felt during their fight for independence and freedom, to diminish over time, in turn, possibly effecting the nation’s future.

As a woman who has just turned 20, I have always lacked the belief that a person like me would be able to assist in changing structures and help those without a voice. Moving to Israel this past year has been an eye-opening journey for me. Life in Israel on the surface seems very different to life in South Africa. Israel, the start-up nation of the world making a desert bloom, a country full of Jewish mothers. How could anyone be starving!? In reality, I have found many similarities to my own surprise. Poverty is rife in places we sometimes cannot see, but that does not mean it does not exist. As a Zionist and strong believer in humanity, reaching out and raising awareness of this issue inside and outside of South Africa is a fundamental step towards bringing people, and the Jewish population of this world, together, towards a better future for all.

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And the achievement of this issue inside and outside of South Africa is a fundamental step towards bringing people, and the Jewish population of this world, together, towards a better future for all.

During this time we reflect on our past, present and future, and make a conscious effort to live by the sacrifices and achievements endured by the Jewish people. Jewish people gather around the Seder table and tell the ancient stories of slavery that led to liberation. Our goal then was not to overtake Pharaoh or rule Egypt, but to simply worship God freely.

Today, we should not perceive ourselves as being very different. Populations of the world should stand together to share the same privileges and responsibilities as any other citizen and to live peacefully as one. Latet strives to achieve equality, peace, and wholeheartedness for all through the work and effort they conduct. I do believe NGO’s, like Latet, are capable of shaping the world we live in today. With extra hands and assistance, such organisations can go a long way in making life better for all.

For more information on the organisation, please visit https://www.latet.org.il

Demi is a student in Israel, studying a BA Communications at IDC University.
Most South African Jews of Sephardi origin are entitled to EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP AND ACCORDINGLY, AN EU PASSPORT

A common misconception is that South African Jews of Ashkenazi heritage are of Lithuanian descent, and that only those who are able to prove their eligibility for Lithuanian citizenship are able to obtain a European passport. The fact is that most South African Jews do qualify for European citizenship, whether they can prove their Lithuanian lineage or not, and most South African Jews of Sephardic heritage are also eligible for European passports.

Horesh advises that eligibility for a Lithuanian or Polish passport depends on the city from which your grandparents (or their parents) hailed.

Horesh says many South African Ashkenazi Jews of Lithuanian origin have been refused Lithuanian citizenship because their heritage is actually Polish. They would, accordingly, be entitled to Polish citizenship and a EU passport.

After World War II, the borders in Europe changed, resulting in cities changing nationality. The resultant effect for descendents of Jews who were born in Vilnus, for example, is that their application for Lithuanian citizenship will be denied, but an application for a Polish passport may very well be successful.

Sephardi: The descendents of Sephardi Jews (who were exiled 500 years ago) are most likely eligible for a Portuguese passport. If applicable, Horesh is able to obtain an official certificate confirming such eligibility, on the basis of which an application for European citizenship can be made and will most likely be successful. Portuguese citizenship enables one to enter the United States without the need to apply for a visa.

In addition, Horesh is filing many applications for descendents of Sephardi origin who arrived in South Africa from Greece, Turkey, and North Africa. Descendants from other countries in the Middle East and Holland are also potentially eligible.

Horesh resides in Israel, but has spent seven years in Poland, and is recognised as a leading lawyer in the field of European citizenship, with a full understanding of local immigration laws.

I will be in Johannesburg from June 13th till June 19th, and then in Cape Town till June 24th. My South African phone number is +27 64 745 5273. Email me on adv.avi.horesh@gmail.com
In memory of Lianne Stuppel

We are deeply saddened by the sudden passing of Lianne Stuppel, during the December holidays.

Small in stature but with a huge heart, she endeared herself to staff members and workers alike. Lianne worked at Giftime for over 15 years during which time she always had the desire to take on new challenges and keep learning. A memorial service was held at the Centre, attended by her father Malcolm and Anne and all the staff and workers who had not been able to attend her funeral. Lianne continues to be sorely missed.

Life on the long and lonely road

Running has become a way of life for two of our exceptional athletes from Astra Centre.

Paul Rawraway recently received a gold medal for completing the Cape Peninsula Half Marathon (21km) in a time of 52 minutes, 43 seconds!

Bradlee Gruss received his bronze medal at the Discovery Retro Run in which he completed the 8km race in a time of 1 hour, 1 minute, 28 seconds. He also completed the Century City Express 10km in a time of 1 hour, 13 minutes.

Annual fun time

The Astra Committee held their annual braai for the Astra workers and their families.

This year, it was combined with the Purim Party, kindly sponsored by Jeremy and Ruth Chaitman. The workers enjoyed the delicious lunch and entertainment by Gabriel Shai.

Committee member (and braai master) Doran Jaffe doing his bit to ensure the meat was cooked to perfection.
Thank you Herzlia Alumni in Houston and Toronto

AMANDA ZAR  
The Herzlia Foundation Trust

In March 2019, Geoff Cohen, Director of Education UHS, and I continued our campaign of reconnecting with our overseas Alumni. We traveled to Houston and Toronto to create awareness about the critical work of The Herzlia Foundation Trust.

In Houston, we held a very successful reunion, generously hosted by Leorah and Jack Levin in their beautiful home in South Shepard Houston. Over 25 alumni ranging in ages from 35 – 85 attended a very nostalgic and memorable reunion. Geoff spoke about ‘The Herzlia of Today’ and discussed the various challenges facing both the educational system and parents in today’s world. He emphasized that HERZLIA remains committed to creating a space for its pupils to become critical thinkers, passionate Zionists and effective contributing members of both our South African and the Global society.

“Geoff spoke about ‘The Herzlia of Today’ and discussed the various challenges facing both the educational system and parents in today’s world. He emphasized that HERZLIA remains committed to creating a space for its pupils to become critical thinkers, passionate Zionists and effective contributing members of both our South African and the Global society.”

Our second reunion, coordinated by alumnus David Cohen (Geoff’s son), took place in Thornhill. Again alumni from all different years attended this special reunion to share stories, laughter and lots of ‘did you remember when’s’. It was very clear that Herzlia Alumni truly appreciate the privilege their Herzlia education has had in informing who they are today and to the success they have experienced in their personal and working lives.

We met with several alumni one-on-one who generously donated to The Herzlia Foundation Trust. The overall take home from all our reunions and meetings was that many Herzlia alumni clearly see it as their responsibility to partner with the Herzlia Foundation Trust and make a real difference in the life of a Jewish child.

Thank you Herzlia Alumni in Houston and Toronto!

For more information about the work that we do at The Herzlia Foundation Trust, contact Amanda Zar on +27 21 286 3472 or email azar@herzlia.com
exhaustion but banishes the expression of it. To the heart of how the demands of contemporary life leads to experiences and those from his consulting room, Cohen gets that demonizes idleness and inactivity. Drawing on personal clearly and beguilingly about our fears living in a society, a devoted Freudian and a professor of literary theory writes nothing at all is the most difficult thing in the world.' Cohen NOT WORKING

He delivers a fresh look at what it means to be wakeful granting valuable insight into the workings of our unconscious become emptier without the stimulation that insomnia bestows, She embraces this condition and believes that her life would happen today. Mitzi, a freelance journalist is startled when a parallels between the libretto of the ballet and what could ODETT by JESSICA DUCHEN. Written as a new take on the story of Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake, Duchen finds ingenious balances between the libretto of the ballet and what could happen today. Mitzi, a freelance journalist is startled when a swan crashes through her window and even more so when she turns into human form at night. Only the avowed love of a man can restore her existence as a woman and Mitzi's brother Harry seems to fit the bill. Psychological interest INSOMNIA by MARINA BENJAMIN. A collage-like compilation of autobiographical, literary and philosophical reflections on the experience of Benjamin's many years of insomnia. She embraces this condition and believes that her life would become emptier without the stimulation that insomnia bestows, granting valuable insight into the workings of our unconscious mind. She delivers a fresh look at what it means to be wakeful in the dark. NOT WORKING by JOSH COHEN. Oscar Wilde wrote ‘To do nothing at all is the most difficult thing in the world.’ Cohen a devoted Freudian and a professor of literary theory writes clearly and beguilingly about our fears living in a society, that demonizes idleness and inactivity. Drawing on personal experiences and those from his consulting room, Cohen gets to the heart of how the demands of contemporary life leads to exhaustion but banishes the expression of it. HISTORY — HOLOCAUST POGROM by STEVEN J. ZIPPERSTEIN. In Kishinev in 1903 Jews were murdered, raped and injured and synagogues desecrated. Recounted by the newspapers throughout the Western world this became a prototype for the word “pogrom”. Zipperstein attributes the cause to Pavel Krushevan, an anti-Semitic local, whose publications were rife with blood libel. With evidence from Russia and Europe, an impressive narrative of state directed mob violence.
Communicating with Your Children
Calm Voice, Calmer Children
by Charmaine Nicks

We often try to get our children to behave in ‘acceptable’ ways by threatening, bribing or when frustrated, letting our parents jump right out of our mouths and saying things we regret. Often this way of talking is driven by having expectations of how our children should be behaving. What is the correct way of talking to our children so that they can reach their potential and be productive members of their family and society? In one week I have come across three discussions around behaviour change to get the best response and to effectively communicate with others, that all amounted to the same thing.

The first was a talk by Professor Stephen Rollnick, a Psychologist who is the co-founder of Motivational Interviewing (MI). He addresses how we should talk to people for change and uses this technique to facilitate changes in behaviour. MI was used mostly to change thinking and behavioural patterns with people struggling with addiction but now MI is more broadly used. It is really worth listening to the entire talk to learn ways of communicating that invite change rather than trying to coerce change through threats and bribes.

The second was a conversation with the Head Psychologist, Dr De Jager of Red Cross Children’s hospital on so-called ‘tyrannical children’ who often also have ADHD. (The UK uses the term ‘child to parent violence’ or ‘parent abuse’ instead of ‘tyrannical children’). I would prefer to use the expression ‘child to parent communication’. Sometimes this communication gets negative and children become so anxious and therefore frightened, that they use the techniques that we use (threats and bribes) and hence get labelled ‘tyrannical’. Perhaps that is how we sound ‘tyrannical’ when trying to guide our children. Red Cross Children’s Unit is running a programme in collaboration with Duke University on Parent Child Interaction Therapy to teach more appropriate interactions between the parent and child. Once again, this is well worth researching on the internet as obviously this programme is only available to a few selected children that meet certain requirements and were already on the waiting list.

Thirdly, I attended a lecture by Fatima Williams (UCT) on Melanie Klein. Fatima emphasised that the angry child is an extremely anxious child and the parents’ appropriate response will help the child to integrate itself with the world and see that good and bad exists in one person. She stated that it is important that the child has more good experiences than bad so that integration is positive.

If there are too many negative reactions and consequences this will result in the child having ‘black and white’ or ‘all or nothing’ thinking and lead to more anxiety and anger in the child. Klein cautioned against projective identification. An example of this is when a baby is hungry and starts to get fussy. Mom thinks ‘wait there is something wrong, I wonder if the baby is hungry?’ Mom behaves in accordance with the feeling of the baby and feeds the child. This is a successful interaction. An unsuccessful interaction would be where the parent fails to meet the child’s needs.

Calm and controlled behaviour by the parent/partner usually destabilises the child’s abusive or defensive behaviour and guides them to consider their attitude.
On Tuesday 26 March the South African Jewish Museum, in conjunction with the Cape Town Holocaust and Genocide Centre, hosted the Cape Town premiere of My Dear Children.

The film explores the difficult life choices faced by Feiga Shamis, a Jewish mother of 12 trying to survive the horrors of pogroms in the Ukraine after the First World War. Driven by poverty, violence and loss, Feiga placed two of her children into a Jewish orphanage, the same orphanage from where Isaac Ochberg later brought his famous orphans to South Africa. The two children, aged 8 and 10, were among the Ochberg Orphans and went on to live their lives as South African Jews.

The film centres on letters Feiga wrote late in her life to her two children, in which she describes what drove her to make such an impossible decision. Filled with regret and pathos, the letters provide heartrending details of the circumstances endured, particularly by Jewish women during this violent period in history. The film follows Judy Favish, Feiga’s granddaughter, as she traces her grandmother’s life story. Closely linked to South Africa through the connection to Ochberg, the film also features a number of our community members.

The film’s director and producer LeAnne Dance, as well as Judy Favish, were in attendance at the premiere. Following the showing, each of them spoke to the captivated audience about their experiences during the making of the film.
How do music and the law intersect?

By Anton Katz

There are the formal ways and then the possible ‘new’ ways of thinking.

Music law covers a range of traditional legal subjects. These include intellectual property law (for example copyright law, trademarks, image publicity rights.), competition law, commercial and insolvency law, contract law, defamation and, for the live events industry, immigration law, health and safety law, and licensing, and lastly censorship laws (remember the banning of singing apartheid protest songs.) Many millions of rand and dollars and reputations depend on how the law deals with issues involving music.

A most famous case in contract law cited all over the world concerns an opera singer. Opera singer Johanna Wagner agreed and was engaged by Benjamin Lumley to sing exclusively at Her Majesty’s Theatre on Haymarket from 1 April 1852 for 3 months, two nights a week. Frederick Gye, who ran Covent Garden Theatre, offered her more money to break her contract with Mr Lumley and sing for him.

Lumley went to court to seek an order restraining Johanna from singing at Covent Garden, and compelling her to sing at Haymarket. The case was about: Can a person legally compel someone to complete his/her part of the bargain? Or, put another way, if someone refuses to perform a contract, can you take that person to court and get a judge to order him/her to do what he promised to do?

In 1852 the court, Lord St Leonards LC, declined to force Johanna Wagner to sing at Haymarket, but prohibited her from singing at Covent Garden. The court found that he had no power to compel an opera singer to perform under her contract.

Specific performance of a contract could not be granted if the performance was of a personal nature, like playing music or singing in a show. If the performance of the contract is not personal then a court generally can order performance; obvious examples are compelling of the delivery of a motor vehicle that has been sold, or transfer of property.

During the Holocaust, European Jews, amongst others, were persecuted and forced to live in inhumane conditions. In the ghettos and concentration camps, they lived with constant hunger, sickness and fear of death.

Even under these terrible circumstances, some managed to play music and compose new songs. Music is a universal language that has the power to express what cannot be told or explained in words. The music that was performed or composed during the Holocaust, provided some souls with a touch of emotional comfort and distraction from their horrific reality: “music gave us so much, to escape even for a few moments to a ‘normal’ world” explains Greta, a survivor from ghetto Terezin. Though they could not escape from their physical reality “music allowed us a complete disconnect and emotional escape from the daily life.”

Indeed, music had the power to save people’s lives during the holocaust. Music of diverse origin and style were performed and composed during the Nazi period.

The Nazi Party itself made widespread use of music at rallies and public events, particularly marching music andousing propaganda songs. The Nazis highly valued music and often gave special treatment to those who had the skill to play an instrument.

The Nazi’s appreciation of music allowed some imprisoned musicians to get better jobs, better living conditions, more food and clothing. In many ghettos and camps, people who played an instrument were selected to join the local band or orchestra. Some musicians were forced to entertain the Nazis.

The travesty of musicians who were forced to play in the concentration camps would haunt them forever. Many played as they watched their family and friends march into the gas chambers. The ‘useful’ skill of those musicians was a horrific and traumatic experience, but one that often saved their lives: “the cello really saved my life because to be in this orchestra was a way of survival, because as long as they wanted music they would be foolish to put us in the gas chambers” explains Anita, a survivor from Auschwitz.

The logo of the Greenlandic Judiciary is a drum with a drumstick, and in the drum are two figures. This logo draws on the Eskimo tradition of song-duels, one of the devices used to ‘solve’ conflicts between individuals. The drum hangs on the walls of magistrates’ courtrooms throughout Greenland.

In western legal systems, which have generally cut out or ignored the cultural components of law, have also to a large degree excluded and ignored emotionality in law.

Western notions of justice include Lady Justice weighing scales and cutting out and off with the sword. Emotion is not part of the law. But should the law ignore emotions and human frailty; perhaps a more creative way of creating societal balance and ecological sustainability is through music. Law is after all merely a tool to achieve justice, peace and harmonious conditions for all.

Friedrich Nietzsche sums it up so well: “And those who were seen dancing were thought to be insane by those who could not hear the music.”

Anton Katz SC, a senior counsel practicing at the Cape Bar, was a member (2011 — 2018) of the United Nations Human Rights Council Working Group on mercenaries.

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WHO AND WHAT IS MENSCH?

Mensch is a network of Jewish South Africans co-creating positive change in the country. We believe that our community has a unique opportunity and responsibility, to live our Jewish values, by playing a role in creating a more equitable and democratic South Africa for all - proudly as Jews. Mensch is a community, an organisation and platform, that grows people and creates opportunities for us all to do our bit!

Meet 4 of our newest Mensch Network Change-makers:

**Mandy Myerson:**
Mandy is the founder of Human Waking, a movement aimed at inspiring people towards conscious and connected living. She does this via awareness around food, starting with her development of AWAKE superfood snacks, found in health shops and good food outlets all over Cape Town. Mandy is a social entrepreneur, a mother of two and on a mission to empower people to be the best version of themselves!

**Rolene Miller:**
Rolene founded the Mosaic Training Service and Healing Centre for Women 25 years ago, and this year launched her book Womandla! Women Power, an account of the journey of Mosaic’s Community Workers’ and Court Workers’ lives, training and services. Says Rolene, “Womandla! Women Power! belongs to everyone who in our patriarchal culture and society wants to prevent and stop Women Abuse and Domestic Violence.”

**Shana Kagan:**
Shana is a mother, an accidental activist and the founder of Jedi Tedi, a non-profit organisation established in honour of her son Jed and his battle with a rare Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS) disease. The organisation is focused particularly on raising funds for the Red Cross Pain Clinic via the making and selling of unique, handmade Tedis by a team of retired grannies and anyone wanting to volunteer their time.

**Pippa Segall:**
Pippa has a BA (Politics) from UCT and has been working in the development field since 1997. She coordinates Southern Hemisphere’s training programme and other research projects. Southern Hemisphere is a socio-economic development consultancy which assists the state, civil society groups and corporate CSI’s with research, design and planning of projects, monitoring and evaluation and more.

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Our mentor has been amazing, asking us provocative questions, offering reality checks and really challenging us about where we wanted to go, while at the same time being very supportive to us. The ORT JET team also keeps in regular contact, always reiterating a willingness to help provide us with any support that we might need. Through the process we have breathed new life into our business, having started a new second company and pursuing the type of work that keeps us inspired.

Brett Cohen, The Green House

ORT JET is an incredible organisation that has supported the growth of our start-up in such a meaningful and valuable way. ORT JET's mentorship has changed the face of our business. We have been connected to and have been guided by top industry leaders who have generously given of their time and instilled confidence in us to pursue our vision and dream. Thank you, ORT JET Cape Town, for helping In Site Projects to find its place in the marketplace.

Liora Raff, co-founder, In Site Projects

Most Jews of Polish, Lithuanian & Latvian origin are entitled to EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP AND ACCORDINGLY, AN EU PASSPORT

A common misconception is that South African Jews of Ashkenazi heritage are of Polish, Lithuanian & Latvian descent, and that only those who are able to prove their eligibility for Polish, Lithuanian & Latvian citizenship are able to obtain a European passport. The fact is that most South African Jews do qualify for European citizenship, which will result in them obtaining a EU passport. Ashkenazi: It is important to understand that until 1918, all of Eastern Europe was divided between three empires: Russia, Prussia, the Austro-Hungarian empire. Neither Poland nor Lithuania and Latvia existed until 1918.

At the end of the WWI, the territory was divided, and countries like Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, and others were born/ re-born. Only then did residents become citizens of these countries. As a result, people who, for example, were born in Riga (nowadays Latvia) could actually be Polish, Lithuanian or Latvian.

Horesh advises that eligibility for a Lithuanian or Polish passport depends on the city from which your grandparents (or their parents) hailed.

Horesh says many South African Ashkenazi Jews of Lithuanian origin have been refused Lithuanian citizenship because their heritage is actually Polish. They would, accordingly, be entitled to Polish citizenship and a EU passport.

After World War II, the borders in Europe changed, resulting in cities changing nationality. The resultant effect for descendants of Jews who were born in Vilnius, for example, is that their application for Lithuanian citizenship will be declined, but an application for a Polish passport may very well be successful.

Sephardi: the descendants of Sephardi Jews (who were expelled 500 years ago) are most likely eligible for a Portuguese passport. If applicable, Horesh is able to obtain an official certificate confirming such eligibility, on the basis of which an application for European citizenship can be made and will most likely be successful. Portuguese citizenship enables one to enter the United States without the need to apply for a visa.

In addition, Horesh is filing many applications for descendants of Sephardi origin who arrived in South Africa from Greece, Turkey, and North Africa. Descendants from other countries in the Middle East – even Holland – are also potentially eligible.

Horesh resides in Israel, but has spent seven years in Poland, and is recognised as a leading lawyer in the field of European citizenship, with a full understanding of local immigration laws.

Living in Israel – a two-hour flight from Warsaw and Vilnius – offers him quick and easy access to Poland, Lithuania and Latvia. Accordingly, he is able to work closely with local professionals who assist him in tracing the documentation required for successful applications for European citizenship.

In addition, and as a result of his close ties with Portuguese authorities, to date he has had a 100% success rate with applications for Portuguese citizenship.

Horesh is available to discuss your specific details. He is often in South Africa, and can meet you in person to discuss your specific needs.
SIMCHA SNAPS

Shaun Stoch and Raffaella Thoolen

Dean Segell and Taryn Abramsohn

Photo: Edo Photography

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The show will go on

By Craig Nudelman

And so it happened on 24 March 2019 that South Africa won their spot in the African Cup of Nations (Afcon) 2019, taking place in Egypt in June/July.

It was a momentous occasion for South Africa. For years, Bafana Bafana have been called “Banana Banana”. Their inability to qualify for any major tournament has made them a laughing stock in African football, most recently in the 2014 and 2018 FIFA World Cups and the 2017 Afcon. Remaining loyal to Bafana during these tough times was as trying as being positive about Zuma’s reign as President. But now Bafana are through to the Finals and the African centerpiece will finally display the acronym ‘RSA’ on the programme.

During this dark footballing decline, from our heyday in 1996 (where we were 16th in the World according to FIFA rankings) to now, I have supported Bafana. My cheers have been outnumbered by my cries of anger for the vast majority of my life, But I have still supported them. I, for some unknown reason, believe that the national team can do us proud once again.

This is also true of my feelings towards our country and its political state. We have lived through some of the most dramatic scenes a state has ever faced. The first democratic election very nearly didn’t happen. The documentary A Bloody Miracle looks at the events from Chris Hani’s assassination on 10 April 1993 to the election on 27 April 1994. During that year blood was shed. A civil war was on our doorstep and yet, wonder of wonder, we survived. That year, so many of us got chills seeing the snaking lines of people finally allowed to vote for the first time. This was truly a breakthrough moment. The apartheid system had ended. But 25 years on, how have we, as a society, evolved?

Since the Zuma presidency, South Africa, like Bafana, has slipped down the rankings. Our economy has broken down, public service has been diminished and our state-owned enterprises are bleeding the country of its much-needed economic support systems. Our education system is one we draw shame in the world, and together with a lack of jobs, we have a terrifying unemployment rate. State capture and the Guptas have made a mockery of the country, with only the judiciary and the press still shining some light in dark times (irrespective of load-shedding, thanks to Eskom).

Many of us say we need a ‘Plan B’, furiously trying to get our Lithuanian or Polish passports; digging into our grandparent’s disorganised archives to see where that damn birth certificate is! What a chutzpah that they didn’t know we’d need proof of their birth as a result of our country’s potential implosion. Perhaps these are the same people who have given up on Bafana, choosing not to watch the national team’s struggles (even though we do kkab some nachas from your Yiddishne boychik Dean Furman being in the line-up).

And who can blame them? Increasing populism has made it very difficult to find a place of belonging in society, where we are constantly reminded of our white privilege. Julius Malema said, in his manifesto launch, that the amount of money that people receive in social grants is less than what white people spend to feed their dogs. He exclaimed, “Their (whites’) dogs even have medical aid, our children don’t have medical aid. Their dogs eat steak, they (are) cooked for and eat...” That rhetoric is dangerous. It fuels the fire of racialism and radicalism that Nelson Mandela and the ANC of old tried to get rid of. The ANC is also guilty of this, as is the DA. Its campaign to “Keep the ANC and EFF out of the Western Cape” seemed rather negative and in my mind, a bit racially charged.

We have also seen how disgraceful the ANC is, their list of MPs for the election including the most corrupt of individuals in the previous Zuma administration. The ‘New Dawn’ that was supposed to be Cyril Ramaphosa’s attempt to return the ANC to its former glory has been referred to as the ‘New Dusk’ by political analyst Daniel Silke. The fact that they might receive less than 60% for the elections is a severe blow to the party.

But life and sports will go on. There is the Cricket World Cup in England from 30 May to 14 July where we have a chance of reaching the semi-finals and perhaps riding ourselves of our reputation as the perpetual ‘chokers’. I am still trying to recover from the last World Cup there in 1999, when a disastrous run-out sent South Africa into a deep depression. And there is of course the Rugby World Cup in Japan; who knows how the Springboks will fair?

Although we may find ourselves in a state of uncertainty over the political aspects in South Africa, at least we have the certainty that sports will carry on, and I will continue to proudly sing, "we will live and strive for freedom in South Africa our land". Viva South Africa, Viva!
It was a fine day on a small, tropical island in the Indian Ocean.

A wandering Jew entered the austere immigration building with a feeling of strained optimism. He had already passed the rigid process of eligibility for a work and live permit and only had to renew his visa to buy some time. This was a sure thing, a regular procedure, an extension while in the process. It seemed that his chances were as good as anybody’s. But, they knew all about sure things.

His wife and children awarded him soft, nervous kisses and wished him luck before parking themselves patiently on the bench outside the busy office.

As he opened the glass door his optimism floundered. The airless room was filled with Muslim brothers sitting in obedient rows. They had an air of confidence as they approached the table of their providence, one by one, receiving a loud stamp and a friendly smile from their fellow, bearded official. The atmosphere was almost jovial.

The wanderer took a heavy seat, feeling the weight of his tribal heritage pressing into his chest. He considered his options… fight or flight… and quickly realized that he had no options. He glanced upwards and with a questioning expression, the gray ceiling obscuring his view of the sky.

The brothers continued to slide effortlessly past the desk and exit with ease, consent in hand.

The wanderer’s turn came up. He approached the desk with apprehension and a gracious smile, placing his Israeli passport under the bearded man’s nose.

“Bonjour, monsieur” he said nervously.

“I need an extension, my visa runs out tomorrow and I’m already in the process of immigration… near the end. Could you please grant me an extension so I can continue the process?”

The bearded man gave a self-satisfied grin.

“I cannot extend it, it’s expired.”

“What do you mean? The expiry date is tomorrow, I am a day early.”

“Bye,” he said coldly, placing his passport back on the desk.

The wanderer took a heavy seat, feeling the weight of his tribal heritage pressing into his chest. He considered his options… fight or flight… and quickly realized that he had no options. He glanced upwards and with a questioning expression, the gray ceiling obscuring his view of the sky.

After finding no solution to the absurdities, the officials gave up, and the wanderer tried not to cry.

“You will have to buy another ticket out of Mauritius.”

“You need an onward ticket from Mauritius.”

“But I have no Euro’s, only Rupees,” came out of his beard. “You will have to buy another ticket out Sir.”

“You will have to buy another ticket out Sir.”

“But I have no Euro’s, only Rupees, and no place to exchange.”

“Try talking to Mauritius airlines around the corner, maybe they can help you.”

He dragged himself around the corner, thinking thoughts of doom.

“Good evening,” he began, and explained his latest ridiculous predicament.

The sympathetic and helpful official called her supervisor and tried to find a way out.

“You will have to buy another ticket out Sir.”

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He dragged himself around the corner, thinking thoughts of doom.

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The sympathetic and helpful official called her supervisor and tried to find a way out.

“You will have to buy another ticket out Sir.”

“But I have no Euro’s, only Rupees, and no place to exchange.”

“Oh, she exclaimed, no money? That is a problem.”

After finding no solution to the absurdities, the officials gave up, and stamped his passport.

The wanderer flopped onto his seat on the plane and begged for something to drink and maybe a peanut or two.

He opened his notebook and continued to write, trying to make sense of his life. He felt as long as he kept writing, he could look at it all from the outside, watch his own movie and laugh. He came to expect the unexpected and instead of movie and laugh. He came to expect the unexpected and instead of

The Karidis are an Israeli/South African artist family who have lived and worked in South Africa, Israel, Mauritius and Fiji. Maiyan studied art, anthropology and linguistics and was trained in mosaic restoration in Israel. Tovi studied ceramic design at Betsalel Academy of Arts in Jerusalem. He is also a sound engineer. Their children, Mistorin and Keshet have lived amongst different cultures for most of their lives. Keshet is currently at school at Herzlia High School in Cape Town. These stories form part of a series of experiences of Jewish identity in extraordinary locations.
Lincoln City’s South African Jewish connection

By Ilan Herrmann

As the English Football League season reaches its climax, all eyes are on the big six: Man City, Liverpool, Man United, Spurs, Chelsea and Arsenal. But there is a side many are not watching which is worthy of our attention, both from a sporting point of view as well as from a Jewish South African interest.

Lincoln City is poised to win League 2, the fourth tier of English football. The team is currently 11 points clear at the top of their nearest rival Mansfield and if they achieve promotion they will move into League 1. For a club that holds the record for the most demotions from the League (five times) and which has never finished higher than 5th place in the second division, this marks a new era.

But there is more. Lincoln achieved promotion only two years ago in the 2016/17 season from the fifth tier of English football, the feeder into the leagues. Now just two seasons later and currently with an 11-point cushion at the top and just five games to play, they are about to move up again. It’s big stuff because League 1 is just one away from the Championship league which is the feeder to the Premier League.

Another remarkable feat of that same 2016/17 season was Lincoln’s FA Cup run. They became the first non-League side since 1914 to reach the FA Cup Quarter Finals after defeating Premier League side Burnley in the fifth round. Though humbled by Arsenal in the quarters at the Emirates, the very fact that they reached there, speaks volumes.

Lincoln is a classic example of the dual loyalties in that he has been an Everton supporter since the 1960’s. But now their focus is primarily with Lincoln and all have made important contributions to the growth of the club.

They’ve also had ‘a ball’ doing it, as Sean Melnick says. “When Clive Nates invited me to join him in investing into Lincoln City, he hinted that we’d have a lot of fun in the process. I can happily say that the enjoyment and excitement since we invested, have surpassed all expectations.”

It was Nates who spotted the opportunity and reached out to the flailing club in 2015 after they were informed by their bankers that they would be withdrawing their loan. With the formalities completed Nates became a director in 2016 and was then elected Chairman in June 2017.

Nates recalls the backdrop to his foray into English football club investment. “Towards the end of 2011 I retired and then in 2014 my youngest kid was finishing at school. I felt that with my wife being busy the time was right to either go back into the investment world or tick number one off my bucket list, which was getting involved in an English football team.

“Everton was beyond my means so Lincoln City was the natural choice.”

Making a splash in Durban

Herzlia Middle School students competed in the South African Junior National Championships held at Kings Park Aquatic Center in Durban from 20-24 March.

Gymnast brings home gold

Nine year old Anna Castle from Milnerton is a rhythmic gymnast with the Allegro Rhythmic Gymnastics Club.

She was selected to be part of the team to represent the Western Cape at the South African National Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships in Johannesburg. Anna received gold in her ribbon; gold in her freestyle and silver in her hoop routine.
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