

★ JEWISH CAPE CHRONICLE

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'Giva' little – get a lot



Mensch Network members, organisers and presenters: Greg Flash, Jonathan Dockney, Kerry Hoffman, Helene Underhay (Giva), Gina Flash (Mensch co-ordinator), Guy Greenblat and Hannah Yason

On a Wednesday evening at the beginning of June, a Mensch networking event was held at Café Riteve and an incredible organisation called Giva presented to the group, on how they might use Giva to create a crowd-sourcing funding stream for their organisations.

The Mensch Network, still in its first year, is fast creating a multi-faceted platform for Jewish engagement in social change. Members are simply Jewish individuals, who are working or volunteering in social development, social enterprise, academia, politics, health and more. The network creates multiple opportunities both for its members and the broader Jewish community.

Spaces are created for members to network, learn from and support one another, and potentially collaborate. Skills development and capacity building workshops are being offered alongside of opportunities to learn about and make connections with potential CSI partners and more.

Recently, Mensch Network members were asked to respond to a survey asking them to list and rank their key areas of work, interest, and what they wanted and could also offer to, the network. These findings are now informing the content and direction this initiative will take.

Finding sustainable funding is always a primary concern of social and not-for-profit initiatives. This came through clearly in the survey and so they chose to address this in the June Mensch Network gathering.

The beauty of a network is that there are usually solutions to be found from the people around us.

Mensch member Gilad Lang is the founder of an organisation called 'Giva' — a one-to-one giving platform which allows individuals to cater directly to a specific need of another individual. Gilad dreamt up the Giva concept and incubated the project within The Safety Lab — an initiative of the Cape Town Partnership.

So how does Giva work? Giva is a response to the often bleak reality we are faced with on the streets of our city every day. There are people in need and there are people able to give. We come in close physical contact with needy people, but are told we need to give responsibly, sustainably and directly. Giva enables just that. On their website,

On [Giva's] website, donors can choose someone to assist from a list of personal needs put forward by individuals through an accredited non-profit organisation.

donors can choose someone to assist from a list of personal needs put forward by individuals through an accredited non-profit organisation. Donors are then able to follow how their contribution directly impacts that person's life.

As well as discussing the possibilities of working with Giva, attendees spent a portion of the evening introducing themselves and the work they are doing, to one another, allowing for a sharing of ideas and creating potential for collaboration.

Each Mensch event brings together a cross-section of incredible Jewish individuals, doing what they are passionate about. This opportunity to connect as Jews in this sector is creating a relevant, inclusive and dynamic space for social change, firmly within the Jewish community.

David Rubinger in Cape Town

In mid-May this year, the internationally acclaimed photographer, David Rubinger, arrived in South Africa to promote an exhibition of some of his most famous photographs.

As Time magazine's primary photographer for the Middle-East for over 50 years, Rubinger covered all of Israel's wars. His famous photograph, of three Israeli paratroopers shortly after the recapture of the Western Wall in the Six-Day War, has become the defining image of that conflict.

Rubinger, who will be 91 in June this year, had the unique distinction of being present at most of the epochal moments in the



David Rubinger behind the lens

Middle-East during the latter half of the 20th century. As such, his images, more than any other, shaped our perceptions of this era.

The SAJMC provides a once in a lifetime opportunity to view this unique exhibition of photographs that runs until the end of July.

See page 11 for a report on Rubinger's visit to Cape Town.

2015 ROI Summit in Israel

150 of the Jewish world's leading change-makers from 32 countries convened in Jerusalem from 7 to 11 June for the 2015 ROI Summit, ROI Community's flagship programme.

Over the five-day gathering, the participants embarked on a journey of pausing, experimenting with new forms of expression and shifting perspectives, ultimately leaving them with renewed motivation, ideas and professional skills and connections to bring back to their communities.

Among the ROI participants was Aron Turest-Swartz of Cape Town — the only South African representative this year. In 2002, Aron started a band called Freshlyground. Seven years, three albums, four SAMA awards, one MTV award, over 50 songs and 1000's of performances later, he left the band to pursue a dream that he believed to be more ambitious, exciting, and important for his community.

Combining music, film, and social media, Aron collaborated with Larry Joe — an ex-convict, gangster, and drug addict — recording an incredible album inside a small prison cell, and carrying out interactive workshops with over 100,000 high school students around South Africa.



Aron Turest-Swartz

Aron is passionately committed to creating and sustaining a vibrant and thriving global Jewish community.

"We are proud that the ROI Summit has become an exceptional forum to convene some of the most promising young Jews from around the world, providing a platform for them to challenge each other and develop their visions for change," said Justin Korda, executive director of ROI Community. "This group of inspiring leaders has incredible potential to infuse new energy into the global Jewish community."

Following the Summit, participants will become a part of an active global network of young Jews dedicated to social entrepreneurship, innovation and Jewish continuity.

Watch this space for a report back by Aron in the August issue of the Chronicle.

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Lindy with a why



Why should we think about 'knife after death'?

As I write this column, tributes are pouring in online and in the press to celebrate the life of a brave young woman named Jenna Lowe.

In 2012, Jenna was diagnosed with an extremely rare lung disease called Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension. Through her own creativity and determination, Jenna created the 'Get Me to 21' campaign, encouraging the public to register as organ donors and increase the chance of her finding a donor for the double lung transplant she urgently needed in order to have a chance of reaching her 21st birthday. Her blogging, television interviews, website and Facebook pages increased awareness of organ donation and increased the registered organ donor numbers in South Africa significantly.

The executive director of the Organ Donor Foundation, Samantha Nichols, explains that from October last year to March this year 17 476 people registered as organ donors, more than double the corresponding period in the previous year. Nearly 6000 people had signed up as donors through Jenna's website. In December last year Jenna found a match for the transplant and underwent the surgery. Sadly, on 8 June, she lost her battle and passed away in hospital, four months shy of her 21st birthday.

South Africa has a long and proud history of successful organ transplants. Dr Christiaan Barnard and his team performed the world's first human heart transplant at Groote Schuur Hospital in 1967. But today South Africa is no longer at the cutting edge of organ donation. The Organ Donor Foundation states that there is a critical shortage of organ donors in South Africa. There are currently over 4000 adults and children awaiting transplants, with less than 600 transplants being performed a year. In the USA, 40% of the population are registered as organ donors. In South Africa, that number is below 0.2% which means that the shortage is consistent and severe.

Few Jews take issue with donation of tissue or organs by living donors and most Jewish denominations consider the act a moral imperative and a great mitzvah. Organ donation is permitted when an organ is needed for a specific, immediate transplant but it is forbidden to simply donate to an organ bank or to donate for general medical research or for medical students to use for learning purposes.

The biggest issue for Jews is defining the moment of death. For thousands of years, Jewish law took the moment of death to be when breathing and heartbeat had stopped. These criteria made sense in the absence of modern technology where limited resources for determining death were available. Today however bodies continue to breathe and hearts continue to beat with technological assistance, death is now defined by the cessation of all brain activity.

But this is a touchy issue. "To remove organs from a brain-dead patient while the heart is still beating is tantamount to murder," Rabbi Aron Moss explains on chabad.org. While this is a minority opinion, the issue plants enough doubt,

even among secular Jews, to discourage organ donation after death.

Under the current system the general public takes no responsibility for maintaining supply. Because there are no consequences for refusing to donate, it's no surprise that so many people choose not to sign a donor card. At present, the costs or benefits of agreeing to be a donor are no different from those of a non-donor. Economist Alexander Tabarrok suggests a "no give, no take" policy. He argues that giving priority for organ transplants to those who have already agreed to donate creates an incentive to sign an organ donor card (and imposes a penalty for those who don't sign), which increases the number of transplantable organs.

Israel found an interesting solution to the problem of organ donor shortages. They had one of the lowest rates of organ donation amongst developing nations — 31 donors per million people — which was still far more than South Africa, which currently has two donors per million people.


Things began to shift in Israel after a law was passed, giving registered organ donors priority should they ever need an organ. Since then, the number of Israelis who have signed organ donor cards has increased dramatically, with 70 000 signing up during the 10-week campaign alone.

"The law has had a dramatic effect," said Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the kidney and pancreas transplant program at UCLA and an expert on international transplant issues. "It was a significant improvement, and it is serving as an example to other countries." Priority allocation rewards a willingness to donate and penalises the behaviour that in the past afforded Israelis with no intention to donate equal access to organs.

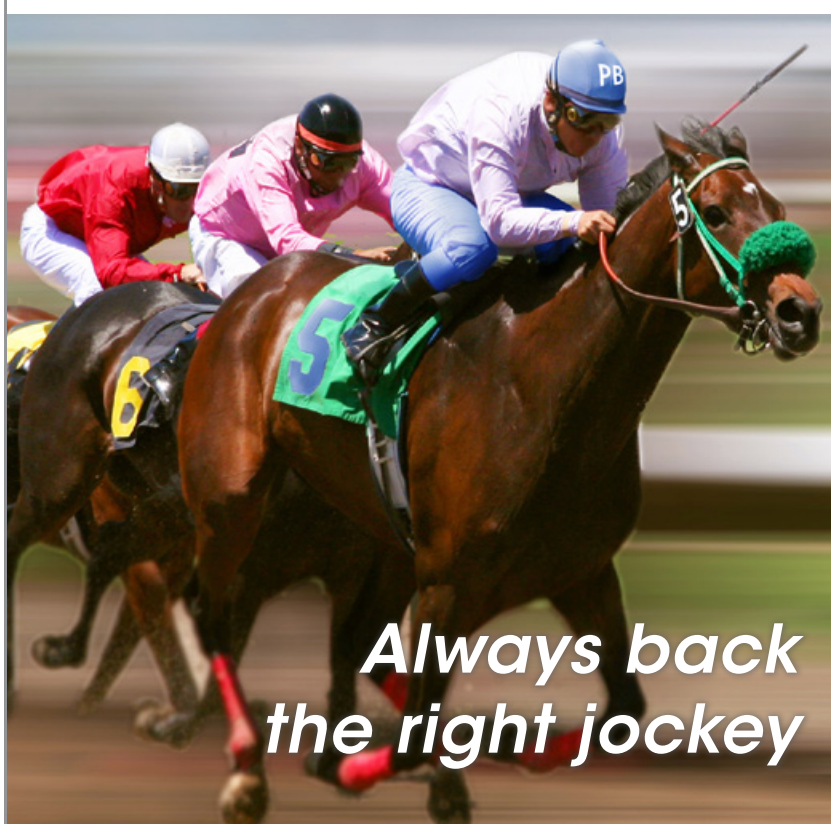
In Great Britain, Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks argued that the standard-issue donor cards were not acceptable because they did not meet the needs of religious families. "We may not take a vital organ from a patient still alive," Sacks wrote in the Guardian. "Cardiorespiratory death is definitive." He added, however, that organs from living donors and those taken once the heart stops are a "mitzvah of the highest kind, saving a life." South Africa is in the same boat — the Organ Donor Foundation uses brain death as the definition of death, which would then disqualify South African Jews from being organ donors.

The United Kingdom is considering legislation that would make it the first country to adopt a "no give, no take" allocation policy. Israel has already passed legislation that prioritises registered organ donors who may require organ donation and America, which sits with a waiting list of nearly 80 000 people is going to need to find a solution soon as well.

The discussion of how South African Jews can be included as organ donors in a way that does not go against Jewish law is an important one. Could the South African Organ Donor Foundation make allowances in how they define death so as to include cultural minorities or do we just keep quiet and hope South Africa never passes a law giving preferential treatment to registered organ donors?



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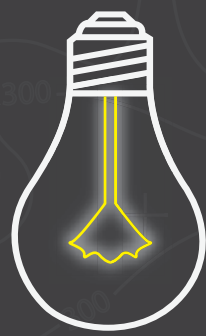


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www.jewishcare.org.za
AGM 3 SEPTEMBER
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CT HOLOCAUST CENTRE

Winter Film Festival:
 'The Forgotten Hero', 'Hitler's children' and 'Kaddish for a Friend'
 Pola Pasvolsky Conference Centre, Hatfield Street.
 Free entrance. Please reserve a seat. See page 18 for details.

SA JEWISH MUSEUM

David Rubinger — Photographic Exhibition.
 Covering 60 years of Israeli photojournalism of this internationally acclaimed photographer, until end July. See page 33

Limmud Cape Town

7 – 9 August Protea Hotel Stellenbosch
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| Date | Portion | Candle lighting | Ends |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------|
| 3 July/16 Tammuz | Balak | 5.30pm | 6.26pm |
| 10 July/23 Tammuz | Pinchas | 5.34pm | 6.29pm |
| 17 Jul/1 Av | Mattot/Masei | 5.38pm | 6.33pm |
| 24 July/8 Av | Devarim/Chazon | 5.43pm | 6.37pm |
| 31 July/15 Av | Va'Etchanan/Nachamu | 5.47pm | 6.42pm |

N.B. Please note that the times indicated are the earliest times for candle lighting. Please consult your Rabbi for further information.

Rosh Hashanah

Please note the yellow greeting form enclosed in this issue

We advise that you send it in well ahead of deadline (10 August) to avoid disappointment

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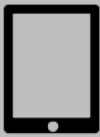
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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No need for diaspora Jews to explain Israel's policies

The confused reaction within the Jewish community resulting from the recent joint statement issued by SA Jewish Board of Deputies and the SA Zionist Federation regarding Israel's refusal of a visa to the SA Minister of Higher Education, Blade Nizimande, refers.

In controversial matters affecting Israel and other nations, surely it is incumbent upon all Jewish/Zionist institutions in the Diaspora to simply follow the lead of the elected authorities in charge of the Jewish homeland's affairs at any given time, whether or not that policy is compatible with their own government's interests.

The Israel government always represents the majority (big or small) of the country's electorate who, in their wisdom, decide the policies best suited to their interests within the circumstances of the day.

In a democratic society like Israel, governments come and go as circumstances dictate — and who knows better than the Israelis themselves, who walk the walk daily, what is in their own very best interests.

Zionists/Jews in the Diaspora need to take their cue unequivocally and unapologetically from the Israel Government of the day, explaining to others that Israel is a sovereign nation whose government is answerable only to its electorate, like any other democratic country in the world.

Most importantly, that will take the burden

off the shoulders of bodies like the SAZF and SAJBD in trying to explain Israel policy in terms acceptable to their host governments.

And, at the end of the day, relationships between countries are based on mutual interests — such as boosting each other's socio-economic development — not on the basis of each other's domestic affairs.

That is why, in spite of the negative rhetoric and posturing to the contrary, trade between South Africa and Israel is growing; why the sharing of military intelligence and defence matters, for example, between the USA and Israel remain intact in spite of the animosity between Obama and Netanyahu.

So there really is no need for Jewish communities to fret when Israel and other countries disagree from time to time. That is the task of Israel embassies throughout the world to sort out diplomatically.

For instance, is the SA Moslem Judicial Council called upon to explain to the SA Government why Isis is beheading Christians and others in the Middle East? Of course not. So why should the SAJBD and SAZF be subjected to that responsibility when Israel decides to do something the SA Government might not like?

The task of Jewry worldwide is to give practical and demonstrable support to the only Jewish Government of the day, irrespective of any difficulty involved. For that, ultimately (as history has shown) is in world Jewry's best interests.

David Abel

National Vice-Chairman, LikudSA

Are you a sexist Jew, or a Jewish Sexist?

1. A singing woman erotically stimulates a man;
2. To be erotically stimulated by anyone other than your wife is unholy;
3. Anything that leads to anything unholy should be forbidden;
4. Therefore men should not hear women singing.

Such is, to my understanding, the core of Rabbi Liebenberg's argument in his article, "A Holy People". The article was a rejoinder to Bev May's "The Streisand Effect", which problematised the "Kol Isha" law's application in contemporary South Africa.

I intend to deal with premise 1 of Rabbi Liebenberg's argument. Premise 2 is equally as problematic, and so too is premise 3. But if I can show that premise 1 is false, then the proceeding assumptions become irrelevant, and we would be able to allow women to sing at communal events without conceding or assuming them.

First, we could respond to 1 as Rabbi Liebenberg's interlocutor did: sexual arousal is found in many things, but a woman's singing is just not one of them. In one sense, the point is negative: we do not make a claim about what the experience of hearing women singing is, but we say what it is not. If we interpret the response like that, it is prone to Rabbi Liebenberg's counter-response: it may be so that (today)

hearing women sing is not sexual, but that does not mean it never was, or never could be again.

However, we could also interpret the response to be a positive one. A woman's song is not sexual, because it is something else that is inherently asexual. And that "something else" could be an aesthetic experience. Defining an aesthetic experience is problematic. But a comprehensive definition of aesthetics is unnecessary to make the following claim: an aesthetic experience is at odds with a sexual one. The claim is slightly strong, and some may disagree (see Hume's "On Taste"), but the majority of people will not. We would like to think that art is somehow separate from sex, in the same way that a nude portrait is distinct from pornography. The reason may be the purpose of either: the idea behind one is to explore and stimulate the aesthetic, while the latter is to gratify a sexual desire.

This does not mean that art cannot be interpreted sexually. So perhaps then 1 is true, to the extent that a singing woman can conceivably arouse a man, in the same way we can be stimulated by nude portraits. But if something is intended to instigate an aesthetic experience, it is inappropriate to find sexual satisfaction in it. The experience is misguided because art is not about sexual enticement, but about something quite different. In turn,

Jewish Frailty or Jihadist Fealty

Ayal Belling (on Jewish Frailty) disposes quickly, elegantly and convincingly of the idea that those who are anti-Zionist are, necessarily, anti-Semitic: that is a canard we'd all do well to abandon. He is measurably less persuasive though where he goes on to skewer the SA community as a whole, for struggling with criticism of Israel.

I count myself among those who have serious problems with the government of Binyamin Netanyahu, and who are committed to a multi-dimensional transformation of the relationship between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Where I differ from the far left though — profoundly — is when it comes to the tone of our respective strictures, and their tenor.

It's not that I expect comment that is neutered, or even that stands impartial between the two sides to the conflict: backing the Palestinians, as underdogs, is something that comes naturally to those of a progressive persuasion. No, what concerns me rather is that Israel isn't just faulted, it's excoriated; it isn't simply held to account, it's savaged. Steven Friedman, for example, seems to believe that Israel is the most God-awful place on earth, somewhere between Apartheid South Africa and Nazi Germany on the immoral continuum.

Belling himself doesn't take up any particular political position (though his leaning is discernibly to the left). Instead he does two things. Firstly, he pathologises the position of those who speak for the community, alleging a mix of hypersensitivity, arch-conservatism and even paranoia. And secondly, he normalises the approach of the critics, implying that what they have to say fits comfortably inside the realms of fair commentary, albeit hurtful.

I think he's got that wrong. It seems to me that what we're dealing with — at least some of the time — is hate speech, and hate speech with very powerful real-world consequences. It can't sensibly be called anti-Semitism, but it does involve impugning the motives of an entire community of people (or, at least, a large majority of them). And while it is indeed so that it is an ideology that is being assailed, not a nation, there's no getting away

from the fact that all the adherents of that ideology are from the same ethnic group. Thus while the intent may be honourable, or even idealistic, the impact can be highly problematic.

So am I urging censorship, or ostracism? No, I don't think that's helpful. Rather I'm hoping that those concerned will examine their consciences carefully and express themselves with a little more circumspection in the future. Or, better yet that one of them will go public on their motivations.

My assumption, having been a member of the denouncing cohort myself once, is that it involves some combination of the following:

- * Internationalism, à la John Lennon's "Imagine".
- * Marxist dialectics;
- * Feeling for and solidarity with the underdog;
- * Resentment of American success and hegemony. And of Israel, as its proxy and ally;
- * Guilt at having grown up white and privileged;
- * The exhilaration (and the relief from boredom and meaninglessness) that comes from publicly rubbishing the strong.

The fact that those doing the articulating are Jews themselves is not insignificant. Criticism is one thing, but when a renowned, faraway, Jewish intellectual (like Friedman or Noam Chomsky) vilifies the Zionist project, this cannot but be grist to the mill for some very unlovely individuals and organisations. The intent may well be to give succour to the downtrodden, but the effect is to spur on the militants. "Look, there's another renowned Jewish intellectual calling Netanyahu a Nazi, pass the Semtex comrade".

Of course implicit in all the above is the notion that Israel is not deserving of special opprobrium, or ostracism: if it really belongs amongst the world's standout moral delinquents, then my whole argument falls down. Looking around the world though, and the region, I don't think it's even in the mid-rank when it comes to oppression or general immorality. More beleaguered than belligerent, more bantustan than behemoth; I'm in equal doses puzzled and dismayed by all the attention it continues to receive, around the world.

Or am I missing something?

Glen Heneck

there is nothing wrong with the artwork — there is something wrong with the interpreter. If a man is sexually aroused by a woman singing at a Holocaust memorial service, there is nothing wrong with her singing — there is something deeply wrong with the man. Empirically, it is unclear if this is ever the case. But even if it is, the onus on "fixing" what is wrong with this man — restraining his sexual drive — is not on those around him. The onus is on him to refine his aesthetic taste and to control his sexuality. To prevent a woman from singing because you cannot control your behaviour is like blaming women for being "half-naked" when they are raped.

So we have found what is actually wrong with 1: it presupposes that men are necessarily aroused by singing women, and that the man is no agent in this process, but merely a victim of seduction. But let us assume this to be true to see its absurdity. For if singing necessarily arouses men,

why then only a woman's song? Surely, given the diversity of sexual orientations, a man's song (or even a child's song) should be forbidden? The same should apply to women hearing other women sing. To assume that only men are aroused by women singing seems arbitrary, for the converse could be true too. And an arbitrary differentiation between sexes that results in discriminative action and repression is cut-and-dried sexism. While sexism is, as Rabbi Liebenberg opines, a notion of the "modern mind", it is unclear why Judaic laws cannot be interpreted in light of contemporary notions, in the same way that Rashi no doubt interpreted texts under the influence of the ideas of the time. In that vein, I agree with Beverley May. We should interrogate "Kol Isha", and find ways through compromise that accommodate the diverse needs of the community.

Eshed Cohen



CAPE SA JEWISH BOARD OF DEPUTIES

Tribute to David Jacobson

By Li Boiskin and Gwynne Robins

As is well known, change unfortunately is inevitable and, after eight years, the Cape Council will reluctantly be saying goodbye to its executive director David Jacobson.

Highly intelligent, articulate and visionary, David is a strategic thinker who is passionate about the Jewish community and we have been very fortunate to have him to direct our professional team at the Board. Furthermore he has proved to be a community leader who conforms to the standards laid down by Michael Steinhardt, a major American philanthropist active in Jewish causes, who believed that true leadership involved creativity, ingenuity and a willingness to challenge the status quo in the interest of progress towards a larger goal.

Jewish unity and inclusivity mattered to David who viewed the Board as an umbrella organisation that welcomed in all its Jews, despite differences of opinion; a Board that also included within its tent as part of the community those who disagree. To David, a vital dynamic community was a heterogeneous community. As Ben Zoma (Pirkei Avot) said: "Who is wise? One who learns from everybody" and David was willing to learn from everybody.

As the leader he was also very aware of the necessity of taking cognisance both of our changing demographics and of the changing realities facing the Jewish community in South Africa and globally in the 21st Century. With the full co-operation of the Board's leadership, committee and its professional team, he has spearheaded great changes in the functioning of the Board to meet these challenges while always being very protective of the Brand Cape Board and was a sought after speaker ever willing to deliver the Board's message to community organisations,

visitors and groups.

He has taken the Cape Board into the world of social media with its own Facebook, website and Twitter pages and has extended its communication with its constituency through the Yada Yada monthly newsletter. Another initiative was his "Talking Tachlis" column in the Jewish Chronicle in which he highlighted the challenges facing the community and how these could be confronted.

He tackled the perennial complaint at conferences "What about the youth?" by developing a specific department — GenerationNext — to focus on the youth, and provide opportunities for networking, socialising, Jewish learning and the development of a stronger sense of Jewish identity and a welcoming Jewish community for all. It was David's intervention and motivation that brought Moishe House, an independent international organisation, to Cape Town when he learnt it was planning to open its first African branch.

Moishe House has proved to be a vital vehicle through which Generation Next could function in line with the Cape Board's agenda and mandate. David also worked with the UJC in turning around their Young Adult Leadership Programme and his innovative ideas made the Ignite! programme dynamic and relevant.

As Nahum Goldmann Fellows, he and Rael Kaimowitz developed mini Nahum Goldmann events to engage young adults in intellectual discussions on key aspects of Jewish identity. Dr. Jerry Hochbaum Executive Vice President, commented on these that "The mini-South African Nahum Goldmann Fellowship has given the young generation of South Africans the opportunity to discuss and deal with, and even to try to repair, the divisions within the Jewish community resulting from apartheid and the growing dislocation of those Jews

on the margins of the community. It has created a new model of inclusivity critical for the restoration of the healthy growth of the South African Jewish community. What has emerged is truly remarkable."

And what David has brought to the community has been truly remarkable and our community has benefitted from his inspired leadership.

One of David's major contributions was his efforts to tackle antisemitism at its source, which lies in ignorance particularly here in South Africa where Jews make up so small a percentage of the population. This was done by providing opportunities to enhance the wider community's knowledge of our community and its contributions. The Cape Board has arranged meetings called Transformation Conversations, open to the wider public, on topics of concern to all such as Immigration policies, Employment Equity policies, or on Reconciliation in SA and Rwanda twenty years down the line. He initiated popular "Straight Talking" events, as relationship building with Government, which enabled the Jewish community to listen to and interact with politicians, journalists, and thinkers as well as "Town Hall" meetings with politicians.

He launched a mentorship programme at UCT in collaboration with SAUJS for first year students from disadvantaged areas who were beneficiaries of HCI Foundation scholarships to combat their extremely high drop-out rates. This is now the fourth successful year of the Peer2Peer project with 12 SAUJS students acting as mentors this year.

Another innovative and ground-breaking project was the Black-Jewish Entrepreneurs Network (B-JEN), which was later adopted by the Johannesburg and Durban Boards. B-JEN, sponsored by Investec, matches up young Jewish and Black entrepreneurs and professionals

— connections are made, ideas are generated and the future is created.

This was followed by Mensch — A Jewish Social Change Network — to showcase the knowledge of the many organisations and activities Jews have developed to assist communities. This has taken the form of a website and a popular exhibition at the SA Jewish Museum and elsewhere showcasing some of the many projects Jews have embarked on to make a difference to South Africa and be actively involved in nation building. At the same time these successful Cape Board projects that David has instituted, encouraged and developed, conform to the request made by then Deputy President Motlanthe to the Jewish community to share our skills with the wider community and help create jobs.

In David's words, there is something spiritually powerful about holding up examples of positive achievement as vehicles for propelling an individual and a society forward and the Board's core responsibility is to enable our communal future by inspiring our community with the light that shines from so many of our Jewish individuals and Jewish organisations.

As he has said before, "That is without doubt our best protection against the forces of darkness. Do we paint a picture of a community under threat, holding up examples of racism and hate, or do we shine the light on the incredible lives that most Jews continue to enjoy in our respective countries of birth? It is this balancing act that Jewish leaders must get right."

It is this balancing act that David Jacobson got right during his years at the helm of the community's foremost organisation. He has given us a legacy that we must continue.

We are sad to see him go and wish this talented, idealistic and farsighted leader every success in the future.

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ELECTION OF THREE CAPE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
BY BALLOT ELECTION
BIENNIAL ELECTIONS OF CAPE COMMITTEE FOR
2015/2017 Reg: 136 (d) VOTERS' ROLL



- 1: Register to vote Online: www.capebod.org.za/elections2015
or call: 021 464 6724 to register.
- 2: Nominate candidates Online: www.capebod.org.za/nominate2015 or
Fax or post: to Cape Board by fax: 086 625 8597
or post: PO Box 4176, Cape Town, 8000.
- 3: Vote in the election Online: Link will be made available in time.
Post: Still an option for those who wish. Details later.
Voting Days: will be held at Highlands House, selected
Herzlia Schools etc. Venues to be confirmed.

Nominations:

Three new members of the Cape SA Jewish Board of Deputies will be elected by public ballot election between the 1st and 25th of September 2015 to serve for two years (2015 – 2017). A further twelve members will be elected at the annual conference on 18 October 2015. Current members are automatically eligible for election at the conference without requiring to be nominated.

To be eligible to stand for nomination, nominate and vote in the election, you must be a Jewish person over the age of 18, residing in the Western Cape, whose name appears on the Communal Register. To check if you are on the Communal Register, please call 021 464 6700. You are also requested to register online to vote at:

www.capebod.org/elections2015 or call 021 464 6724 to be registered.

Candidate nominations must be supported by six nominators whose full names, identity numbers and signatures must appear on the form below. Any person may nominate up to three candidates.

Nominations can be made online at: www.capebod.org/nominate2015 or by filling in the form below and faxing to: 086 625 8597 or posting to the Cape Board offices: PO Box 4176, Cape Town, 8000.

Nominations must be received by the Cape Board by no later than 1pm on 1 August 2015.



NOMINATION FORM (PLEASE NOTE: Nominations close on 1 August 2015, 1pm)

PERSON NOMINATED: FULL NAME _____

(NB: ONLY THOSE WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON THE VOTERS' ROLL MAY BE NOMINATED AND ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ELECTION)

ADDRESS _____

OCCUPATION _____

I hereby accept the nomination as a candidate for the above election.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

PERSON MAKING NOMINATION: (6 nominators required)

(NB: ONLY THOSE WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON THE VOTERS' ROLL MAY NOMINATE)

| FULL NAME | ID NUMBER | SIGNATURE |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2 _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3 _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4 _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5 _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6 _____ | _____ | _____ |



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View from the Chair

By Ben Levitas, Chairman, SAZF Cape Council

When the Taliban destroyed the huge statues of Buddha, the world got a taste of what was to come, and because they remained silent, they opened the gates of hell.

When ISIL captured the ancient oasis of Palmyra, with its beautiful antiquities, there was no outcry. When the ruins and the ancient citadel were reduced to rubble, only a few academics expressed concern. When Nineveh and the treasures of Babylon were destroyed, brazenly filmed by ISIL for the entire world to view, the international community was shocked into inaction. When Christians were ejected from towns in Syria and Iraq, which they had occupied since the inception of Christianity, there was hardly a murmur. More than a year afterwards the Pope raised some concerns.

When more than a million people were transformed by various Islamist groups into refugees, the problem became Europe's and some neighbouring countries.

When tens of thousands of Palestinians are slaughtered in the Yarmouk refugee camp, the usually vocal and vociferous voices that call for sanctions against Israel, for even one death of a Palestinian, are unmoved. When the moderate Jordanians destroyed the most hallowed ground where Jews had been buried for over two thousand years and built a hotel on the Mount of Olives, the world turned a blind eye. When 59 Synagogues, including the renowned Hurva and Tifferet, were blown apart, by the moderate Jordanians, under the watchful eye

of the United Nations, silence prevailed.

When Jews were forbidden in 1948, to even visit the site most treasured by them, the "Wailing Wall", the world bodies thought nothing of it, even though the Rhodes agreement was supposed to guarantee access to all holy sites. When the number of Christians halved, during Jordan's 19 year rule, the world accepted this with equanimity.

Yet Jews are required to forbid Jews from praying on the Temple Mount, the site that their progenitor Abraham actually purchased. And Jews are disinherited of the Cave of the Patriarchs, which was likewise bought by our Jewish forefathers.

What conclusions should we draw from these historical events? It seems that as long as the perpetrators are Arabs or Muslims, these atrocities are perceived as the natural order and are acceptable. Only when the immutable natural order is challenged, when Jews take control and can be blamed, then the ire of the world is kindled.

As Jews we need to revert to our Torah to always pursue truth and justice. In Leviticus; 19:15 'in justice shall you judge your fellow man' we are enjoined to always be fair and just. These values give us the power and the authority to stand up to the indifference of an indifferent and ambivalent world that tolerates the most heinous crimes, except those that Jews can be accused of committing!



Breakfast briefing with Michael Freeman

On 14 May we were once again fortunate enough to meet with the Deputy Head of Mission of the Israeli embassy, Michael Freeman. Mr Freeman updated us on recent political events in Israel, the current relationship between South Africa and Israel, and the role the Israeli embassy plays in building current and future connections between the two countries.



Michael Freeman

Mr Freeman was accompanying the Israeli author Eshkol Nevo during his visit to South Africa, which included meeting with the community both in Johannesburg and Cape Town, including a visit to Wits University and participation in the Franschoek Literary Festival which took place that weekend. He said that it was one of the best weeks he had ever had as spending time with Mr. Eshkol Nevo was a once in a lifetime experience.

He also unveiled a new and exciting initiative by the Israeli Embassy called the "Start Tel Aviv Competition 2015". This is a global competition that brings together start-ups from 17 different countries around the world to compete for the chance to experience five-days in Tel Aviv's start-up ecosystem.

The prize is an intense, all-expenses-

paid, five-day start-up experience in the heart of Tel Aviv between 5 and 10 September 2015 — during the exciting and innovative DLD Festival. Prizes will be awarded to thirteen of the competing start-ups from around the world. Winning start-up founders are joined by local Israeli entrepreneurs to participate in lectures, workshops and meetings with leading Israeli investors and professionals. The winning start-up experience takes place during the DLD Festival week (see www.dldtelaviv.com for more information), and participants have the opportunity to meet the coolest and smartest companies, techies, investors, designers, artists, scientists, and cultural drivers from Israel and abroad. For more information please visit: www.startupTLVsa.co.za

An evening with bestselling Israeli Author Eshkol Nevo

The South African Zionist Federation (Cape Council), together with the Israeli Embassy and Wizo, were honoured to host well-known Israeli author Eshkol Nevo on the 14 May at the Marais Road Shul Hall.

This special night was a preview into some his writing prior to his participation at the Franschoek Literary Festival which started the following day.

The hall was filled with a crowd of

all ages who came to meet and listen to this inspiring writer who shared the inspiration, life experiences and hardships that brought him to write some of his most famous novels.

Eshkol has published novels, short stories and non-fiction. His novels have all been bestsellers and have also been very successful outside of Israel. He has received the Book Publishers Association's Gold and Platinum Prizes (2005; 2008; 2011), the FFI-Raymond Wallier Prize (Paris, 2008), the ADEI-WIZO Prize (Italy, 2011) and

the Steimatsky Prize for Neuland (2012). Homesick was a finalist for the prestigious Independent Foreign Fiction Prize (UK, 2009), and World Cup Wishes was a finalist for the Kritikerpreis der Jury der Jungen Kritiker (Austria, 2011). Neuland was also included in The Independent's list of Books of the Year in Translation (2014).

Eshkol grew up in Jerusalem, Haifa, and Detroit. He is the grandson of Levi Eshkol, the late third prime minister of Israel. He studied copywriting at the Tirza Granot School of psychology at Tel Aviv University. Today, Eshkol owns and co-manages the largest private creative writing school in Israel and is considered the "godfather" of many upcoming young Israeli writers. Eshkol also teaches creative writing and thinking at the Bezalel Academy of Art and Design at Tel Aviv University, Sapir College and the Open University of Israel.

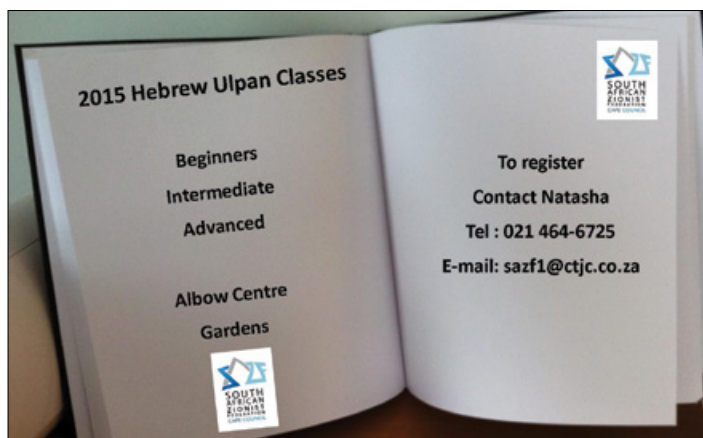
This was a one of a kind experience and being able to see and listen to this special writer was an experience I don't think anybody in the crowd will ever be able to forget.



Eshkol Nevo signing copies of his latest novel, Neuland.



Hila Zetler, Suzanne Luck, Laurie Singer, Michael Freeman, Eshkol Nevo and Tamar Lazarus





David Rubinger: Eyewitness to History 60 Years of Israeli Photojournalism

By Hila Zetler

The South African Jewish Museum together with the South African Zionist Federation (Cape Council) and SA Friends of the Israel Museum were honoured to host the internationally acclaimed photographer, David Rubinger in Cape Town during the second week of May. Mr Rubinger visited South Africa in order to attend the grand opening of SAJM's exhibition of his photographs which took place at the museum on the evening of 17 May.

The opening night of the exhibition was a huge success. Mr. Rubinger presented a fascinating presentation and shared images and stories about his long and illustrious career. At the end there was

not one person in the room who did not enthusiastically applaud this special man. After his speech the guests were invited to walk around and experience the exhibition while enjoying a glass of wine and some food.

I was fortunate enough to have spent some time with Mr Rubinger during his stay in Cape Town. He makes everybody around him feel so comfortable and as soon as I met him it was as if I had known him for years. Everywhere we went he wore his iconic Leica camera round his neck, ready to snap his next famous photograph. Even at the age of 90 he walks around with the confidence of a 21 year old. When asked what he would have been if not a photographer his answer was a carpenter. He said that there is nothing like the smell

of fresh wood and he explained how carpentry was a big part of his life.

His wife Annie, who passed away a few years ago, was also a photographer, and he described to me how she loved children and especially taking children's photographs. "She used to concentrate on the eyes of the children", he said.

One of his favourite places while visiting Cape Town was the viewing point at Signal Hill. He was so excited to be able to take pictures of the city from that location.

Thank you Mr Rubinger for such an unforgettable visit.



David Rubinger and Marc Berman

The exhibition runs until Friday 31 July. The Museum is open from 10am to 5pm on Sundays to Thursdays, and from 10am to 2pm on Fridays. For more information, call 021 465 1546 or visit www.sajewishmuseum.co.za.



Gavin Morris, David Rubinger and David Lurie



Milly Pimstone, Milton Shain and Rhoda Kadalie



Michal and Tony Leon with Marco Van Embden



Corinne and Johnny Copelyn with David Polovin



Esta Levitas, David Rubinger and Ben Levitas



David Rubinger, Sue Luck and Ellen Sternberg



Rabbi Sam and Rebbetzin Aviva Thurgood



Sarin Goott, David Rubinger, Gavin Morris, Marco Van Embden with Nina and Mike Kovensky

Photos by Marc Berman

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE TO THE LAND OF ISRAEL

Part 4

The first three parts of this series explored different claims and links that the Jewish people have to the land of Israel including historical, legal and religious aspects. Part 4 will examine how archaeology reveals much of the deep-rooted Jewish connection to Israel.

There is overwhelming archaeological evidence that supports the notion of the Jewish people having a fundamental right to the land of Israel. With each dig that takes place more light is shone upon the presence that the Jewish people have had in Israel for 3000 years. The continual discoveries of ancient coins, pottery, cities and cultural and religious artefacts highlight the fact that the Jewish claim to the land predates any claims that other peoples in the region may have. Further, archaeological evidence confirms that from times of antiquity to the present Jerusalem has been the capital of the Jewish people.



The Bethlehem Bulla

Following are a few discoveries worth noting:

- The hardened clay lump used to seal documents in ancient times is called a 'bulla'. Hundreds of these seals dating back to the time of the Davidic Kingdom have been found all over Israel
- In 1947 seven scrolls were found in a cave near the Dead Sea by Bedouin shepherds. The Dead Sea Scrolls contain each book of the Hebrew Bible apart from Esther and were concluded to be around 1000 years older than any previous discoveries.
- A broken fragment of inscribed basalt stone mentioning 'the House of David' was found at the foot of Mount Hermon.
- In 1979 tombs in Jerusalem were excavated and around 700 items were discovered that proved the existence of a Jewish population in the area following the Babylonian exile. One of the items was an amulet carrying the inscription of the name of God.
- Excavations at Tel Dan in the 1990's resulted in the discovery of an inscription that not only mentions the House of David but also commemorated a military campaign in Israel by Hazael of Aram around the year 841 BCE.
- Archaeologists excavating in Judea and Samaria unearthed a fortified city. The city provided proof that the Jewish people practiced different religious customs from their Canaanite and Philistine neighbours.
- Sadly, there are a large number of scholars who believe Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles are merely legends, with little to no historical value. It has even been suggested that David himself is nothing more than a mythical figure and that no Kingdom of Israel as described in the Bible ever existed. Such propositions cast doubt on the continual Jewish presence in the land of Israel and on the existence of a central, national Jewish government. That is why the work of archaeologists is so important and so significant. The discoveries they make of varying artefacts are of crucial significance when discussing the ancient connection and presence of the Jewish people in the land of Israel and their fundamental right to that land.
- Just a few years ago ancient proof of Bethlehem's existence was discovered during an excavation in the City of David. A tiny bulla was found that was imprinted with the words 'Bat Lechem', the ancient name for Bethlehem. It is believed the seal was from a shipment sent from Bethlehem to the King of Judah around the 8th or 7th century BCE. This tiny piece of history provides tangible proof of a place named Bethlehem that was big enough to be taxed by a unified Hebrew kingdom.
- In 2014 a team of archaeologists working on a dig site in southern Israel found six official clay seals that support the existence of Biblical kings David and Solomon. The seals provide evidence that some type of government activity was conducted there during the 10th century BCE. The clay bullae that were found were used to seal official documents in the same way that



Aerial view of the excavations at the City of David

wax seals were used on official documents in later periods.

Jimmy Hardin, associate professor in the Mississippi State University Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures said, "Our preliminary results indicated that this site is integrated into a political entity that is typified by elite activities, suggesting that a state was already being formed in the 10th century B.C. We are very positive that these bullae are associated with the Iron Age IIA, which we date to the 10th century B.C., and which lends general support to the historical veracity of David and Solomon as recorded in the Hebrew biblical texts."

Archaeology is key when it comes to revealing the deep-rooted and ancient connection of the Jewish people to Israel. The endless array of archaeological discoveries that exist serve to give a detailed and tangible historical account of Israel and reinforce and legitimize Israel's historic claim to the land.



An ancient Byzantine-era mosaic floor found in the southern Negev region

RESOURCES:

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/12/141216100433.htm>
- <http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/cline35709.shtml>
- http://www.antiquities.org.il/default_en.aspx
- <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Archaeology/arch0513-2.ht>
- <http://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/free-ebooks/ten-top-biblical-archaeology-discoveries/>
- <http://www.arisegeneration.org/media/reports/2011-08-18/stop-cut-does-archeology-disprove-israels-historic-claim-land>
- <http://unitedwithisrael.org/archaeological-evidence-of-a-jewish-jerusalem>
- <http://www.bible.ca/archeology/bible-archeology.htm>; <http://www.aish.com/h/iid/48891682.html>

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On the Middle East, France is a tale of two countries

By Ben Cohen/JNS.org

The French, to the casual observer, are a real enigma when it comes to foreign policy. Sometimes it seems like they can be truly helpful, whereas other times they are truly awful.

Take Iran. On the question of the mullahs' nuclear ambitions, France has retained a healthy skepticism regarding the current negotiating process being pushed by the Obama administration. In a recent interview with the Wall Street Journal, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius was crystal clear that any deal with Iran that didn't grant international inspectors unfettered access to nuclear sites wouldn't be worth the paper it was written on.

"The best agreement, if you cannot verify it, it's useless," Fabius declared. If only Obama were so unblinking and so blunt on the nuclear issue.

Yet we shouldn't get overly carried away by Francophilia. Yes, France is a welcome counterweight to the enthusiasm of the White House for a deal with the Tehran regime that looks like Swiss cheese in terms of what the Iranians can get away with. But France has good reasons for adopting this stance, and it's important to remember that they have very little to do with supporting the spread of open, democratic societies in the Middle East, or with standing up for Israel's national security.

Historically, France has never liked playing second fiddle to the Americans — a sentiment that goes all the way back to the time of Thomas Jefferson and Ben Franklin. But this has more to do

with strategic calculation than emotion. The France that takes a harder line against the Iranians than do the Americans is the same France that, in 2003, vociferously opposed the American-led war in Iraq that led to the overthrow of Saddam Hussein's dictatorship. At the time, the French figured that doing so would push up their stock in the Middle East just as the stock of the Americans came crashing down.

So it is with Iran. The French stance certainly boosts the Israelis, but it is among the Sunni Arab nations that they are reaping material rewards. In May, the French closed a deal with Qatar — that charming emirate built on oil, natural gas, and slave labor — to sell 24 Rafale fighter jets. That same month, French President Francois Hollande was welcomed with open arms at the Gulf Cooperation Council Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he assured the assembled oil sheikhs that a deal with Iran had to be based on preventing the mullahs' from weaponizing their nuclear program.



U.S. President Barack Obama and French President François Hollande in the White House on May 18 2012. Credit Pete Souza White House photo.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is another aspect of the Middle East's woes in which France is pursuing a policy of pleasing the Arab nations, only this time at the expense of Israel. Ironically — though this is doubtless the source of much pride at the Quai d'Orsay in Paris, where the country's foreign ministry is located — the French appear to have the support of the Americans as well.

Last year's vote by French parliamentarians to unilaterally recognize a Palestinian state, then described as mainly symbolic, is steadily becoming official French policy. In March, the French government set in motion the drafting of a U.N. resolution to secure a final settling of the Palestinian conflict with Israel. As the Associated Press reported at the time, "While the substance of the French draft may not differ much from past failed efforts to revive Mideast peace talks, France is hoping this time to avoid a U.S. veto at the U.N. because of increasing American frustration with [Israeli] Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu."

Now the French have teamed up with New Zealand to continue the work of drafting the resolution. It's unlikely that there will be any significant movement on this front before June 30, when the deadline for an agreement with the Iranians expires, but it is entirely possible that the resolution will have been submitted by September, when world leaders descend upon New York City for the U.N.'s annual General Assembly. According to reports in the French press, the resolution uses Israel's pre-1967 borders as its point of departure. Two states would be secured on either side of the 1949 armistice line (Green Line), with land swaps implemented to compensate the Palestinians for any West Bank territory incorporated into Israel by such an agreement. The resolution would require the sharing of Jerusalem as the

capital of both states. A "just" solution of the Palestinian refugee question — widely believed to focus on financial compensation — is also on the table.

Here's the kicker, though: If that resolution hasn't led to the creation of an independent Palestinian state within 18 months of its passage, France — one of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — will go ahead and recognize one anyway. Either way, this poses a serious threat to Israel's sovereignty, because unlike U.N. General Assembly resolutions, those agreed by the Security Council carry legal weight.

Israel does have allies that are likely to oppose the resolution, such as the Canadians, about whom Netanyahu recently said that the Jewish state "has no better friend." Some of the European states, anxious to avoid a situation in which they are eclipsed by the French on foreign policy, might also raise objections. But Canada isn't on the Security Council, and the only other Europeans who are there permanently are the British. In the final analysis, then, the French bid can only be thwarted by the U.S.

Obama, though, has been hinting strongly that the U.S. would vote in favor of the resolution, thus breaking a long tradition of vetoing measures that would

harm Israel's security. As usual, Obama rationalized this position by playing up his personal animus towards Netanyahu. In a recent interview with Israeli television, the president described Netanyahu as "predisposed" to thinking that "peace is naive." (This led one Democratic strategist to remark that such an

attitude has been proven time and again to help, rather than hinder, Netanyahu's appeal to the Israeli public.)

Hence, by the end of the year, we could be facing the prospect of an Iranian nuclear weapon and a solution to the Palestinian issue that would be imposed upon Israel, rather than arising from the consent that is essential for successful negotiations. In many ways, the French will be to blame for this. But the real responsibility will lie with the Obama administration, which continues to insist that it has Israel's back while undermining it at every turn.

Ben Cohen, senior editor of TheTower.org & The Tower Magazine, writes a weekly column for JNS.org on Jewish affairs and Middle Eastern politics. His writings have been published in Commentary, the New York Post, Haaretz, The Wall Street Journal, and many other publications. He is the author of "Some of My Best Friends: A Journey Through Twenty-First Century Antisemitism" (Edition Critic, 2014).

Historically, France has never liked playing second fiddle to the Americans — a sentiment that goes all the way back to the time of Thomas Jefferson and Ben Franklin.

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UOS CAPE COUNCIL 2015

(Back Row, left-right) Ivan Lipschitz, Charles Silbert, Allen Agranat, Joel Merris, Jackie Sachar, Joe Berelowitz, Ronnie Gerdis, Marc Turok, (Front row, left-right) Howard Katzeff, Ronnie Chorn, Shlomo Mazor, Ivan Klitzner (Chairman), Eric Berger (Executive Director UOS), Milton Gerdis, Shelly Korn. Absent: Leo Turvey, Kent Karro, Sam Galansky, Saul Baron, Bernard Sacks, Derek Shapiro, Grahame Bobrow, Solly Berger, Morris Strul, Rabbi David Refaeli.



Don't be Parev – Be Passionate

RABBI MATTHEW LIEBENBERG (Claremont Wynberg Hebrew Congregation)

'Parev' is one of those uniquely Jewish words that defy translation into other languages. In its narrowest sense, it describes a type of food that is neither dairy nor meat but which can be eaten with either. The origin of this word is not clear and it has been suggested that it may come from Latin, Czech, Polish, French, Spanish or Hebrew. Some say it is a corruption of the *Parva Chamber*, a room in the Temple, used by the High Priest on *Yom Kippur* for ritual immersion in a *mikveh*. According to legend, a non-Jewish sorcerer named Parva dug a tunnel under the Temple so that he could watch the service of the High Priest. The tunnel was found and the name of the chamber that was built over it retained his name. Since this chamber was positioned half in the courtyard of the *Kohanim* and half in the general courtyard, the word Parva came to mean that which is neither here nor there.

Just as food can be 'neutral', so too can people be 'parev'. A *parev* person is someone who does not like to commit to any particular viewpoint but prefers to remain neutral. He may be motivated by a lack of knowledge, fear or plain disinterest. There are, however, certain subjects about which it is very difficult to remain 'parev'. Have you ever

met a sports fan that was *parev* about his team? If you are dedicated to a rugby side or a cricket team, that dedication is to the bitter end, to relegation, if necessary. It is also unusual to be *parev* about one's boyfriend, girlfriend, husband or wife. If you do feel neutral about any one of these relationships, you had better seek professional help soon! And what Jew can be *parev* about food? The food itself may be *parev*, but you either hate it or love it. The same is true in war. Although countries like Switzerland declared themselves neutral in WWII, had Germany invaded them, they too would have had to pick sides. It's also difficult to be *parev* about politics, especially in South Africa. Even if one exercises his democratic right not to vote for any particular party, that too reflects a certain point of view. In all of these instances, neutrality is a luxury that the thinking individual simply cannot afford.

At the climatic ending of the *Neilah* service on *Yom Kippur*, we recite the verse "*Hashem is the Lord*" no less than seven times. These words were originally said by the Jews who witnessed the contest between the prophet Elijah and the priests of the idol Baal. Elijah accused his co-religionist of "*dancing between two opinions*". They served

Baal and yet they wanted to be Jewish at the same time. They could not commit themselves to either 'faith'. They wanted the best of both worlds - the privileges of being Jewish and the freedom that an idolatrous lifestyle brought. Elijah told them that such a path was impossible. They had to choose - either *Hashem* or Baal, but they could not be neutral. He challenged the priests of Baal to a contest and proved that *Hashem* was the only power. When the Jews saw the power of *Hashem*, they fell to the ground and declared "*Hashem is the Lord!*"

At the end of *Yom Kippur* we too will say these words. They are a reminder to us that we must not be *parev* about our Judaism. We must embrace it and love it. We must stand up for our people and our beloved Land of Israel. We must become stronger members of our community, be it through charity and volunteer work, attending shul, studying Torah at one of the many weekly *shiraim* on offer in Cape Town or committing to perform a *mitzvah* that, until now, we were unable or unwilling to do.

Don't be *parev* - be passionate, committed, decisive and proud to be a Jew!



Telfed Tidings — June has been a busy month for Telfed!

Israel/SA Community Co-operation

As well as tending to the 25,000 Southern Africans living in Israel, Telfed is committed to strengthening relations and encouraging collaborative efforts with the local SA community. With this in mind, former Director of Telfed, Sid Shapiro, paid a recent visit to SA to meet with leading members of the Cape Town community and some of Telfed's many esteemed and valued partners. "The role of Telfed is integral in supporting olim from SA, in strengthening the Jewish State and providing vital absorption assistance. It was extremely uplifting to once again experience the tremendous welcome, support and encouragement of the Cape Town community" reported Sid.

JNF BDS Talk

In Israel, we started off the month by welcoming guest speakers Colonel Richard Kemp CBE, former commander of British forces in Afghanistan and Isla Feldman, Director of SAZF. Joined by a JNF SA delegation, she detailed the ongoing challenges the S.A Jewish community faces, describing the anti-Semitic and anti-Israel actions employed by groups such as BDS. She also shared with the audience how the Jewish community weathers these attacks.

Colonel Kemp, a dedicated friend of Israel, gripped the audience with his

fascinating perspective on last summer's war against Hamas. Kemp observed that the high moral standards of the IDF are not comparable to any army in the world and also explained why he stands so firmly on Israel's right to defend itself.

Memorial for 87 fallen SA soldiers

A total of 87 Southern African soldiers have lost their lives defending Israel since the establishment of the nation. This past month, Telfed held a memorial service at the South African War Memorial, attended by family and SA community members. Also present were participants in the SA JNF tour and Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft, Rabbi to the Country Communities in Southern Africa.

The monument, located in the heart of the Lavi Forest, was designed by South African sculptor David Fine and erected



Dignitaries, bereaved families, guests and Telfed staff at the Memorial Monument for fallen former SA soldiers.

in 1986, following Isla Feldman's (SAZF SA) instrumental efforts. General (Res) Dr. Emanuel Sakal, who, as a Combat Commander had two South Africans under his command one who fell in the Six Day War of 1967 and the other in the Yom Kippur War in 1973. He spoke of the exceptional courage and dedication of the Southern Africans he encountered during his military career.

May their memories be for a blessing and their contributions to our country never be forgotten.

Initiatives helping the Ethiopian Community in Israel

TECI's (the Telfed Ethiopian Community Initiative) most recent initiative is a pilot programme to help the Ethiopian Community open a retail shop in the Mevasseret Zion Absorption Center. Besides retailing good-quality clothing and household goods at affordable prices, the shop has an additional important purpose: to provide in-house marketing, commerce and communication skills to groups of Ethiopian youth so that they can proceed with talents, confidence and experience that will assist them to secure and explore a variety of employment opportunities. The project is run with the assistance of the volunteers of the Telfed Jerusalem Regional Committee.

Putting Ashkelon on the map

Part of the programme in the JNF tour from South Africa was a tour of the city of Ashkelon, (facilitated by Telfed's local regional committee). Just north of Gaza and 36 miles south of Tel Aviv, the original "Afridar" neighborhood was

established by South Africans in the early 1950's and boasts a "Drom Africa Street", a "Johannesburg Street" and even a "Kaapstad Street".

The tour included a visit to the Ashkelon desalination plant which converts sea water into fresh water and supplies almost 20% of Israel's drinking water.

Following this, the group was addressed by Ashkelon's Chief Security Officer and visited the famous "Iron Dome" battery. They also had the opportunity to meet with senior members of Ashkelon's municipality who spoke about future plans for the city, which has enjoyed a growth spurt in recent years.

Valuable volunteers!

Telfed remains committed to nurturing a national network of some 240 ex-Southern African volunteers. We recently held a 2nd workshop in a series dedicated to strengthening and encouraging their contributions to Israeli society and the SA community in Israel, in order to provide more comprehensive services throughout the country.

Cherie Albucher from Modiin said, "I have been really impressed with the quality of the volunteering programme and as such, I can definitely see myself taking on new responsibilities representing Telfed."

"We are an organisation that depends on the goodwill of volunteers to support a small, professional number of staff members," said Chairman Dave Bloom. "These highly successful workshops ensure that we recruit new people and energy for the long-term sustainability of the organisation," he said.

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or the Hebrew Departments at King David Schools

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SERVICE

When all is said and done, both sellers and buyers expect an agent to be knowledgeable and professional, this shouldn't be a bonus, this should be the norm! What separates a good agent from a great agent? Here are a few key factors that I feel you should consider before making your choice:

Communication:

Any successful relationship needs this trait; a great agent should constantly be keeping you informed of any developments regarding the sale of your home, advising you throughout the process. Qualified buyers are as important and should be treated like gold! Buyers should be kept informed of new listings, setting up multiple viewings and assisting with the finance options are all traits of a professional.

Track record:

Any professional agent would be happy to supply you with a list of references; this will give you a good indication of your agent's history. Every real-estate agent is licensed with the Estate Agencies Affairs Board; records of all disciplinary actions taken against the agents are filed. By getting in touch with the agency, you can find out if there is a disciplinary action on your agent's record.

Availability:

A great agent is available 7 days a week, voice and text messages are responded to promptly and appointments are set up quickly. Sellers and buyers have a large choice of agents, so look for efficiency when making your decision. So if your agent doesn't return your phone calls in a timely fashion or disappears without warning for weeks at a time, you should probably find someone else.



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Melton's *Beyond Borders* Broadens Minds

Melton's *Beyond Borders* course, which teaches the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, has attracted its most diverse student body yet, and for good reason.

Taught in Cape Town by the inimitable Ronnie Gotkin, current students and past graduates agree that the course is a tool that helps individuals to develop a

sound knowledge of the complex situation, and so has the potential to heal fractions in this community as Israel comes under unprecedented attack from various quarters.

Heated argument, misunderstanding and misrepresentation have characterised public discourse in South Africa over the most scrutinised conflict in the Middle East right now, and a gap in knowledge on both sides of the feud has become apparent.

"We believe the strength of this course lies in its breadth and inclusion of voices, factual content, position papers and parallel contexts," says Melton Cape Town director Viv Anstey. Rabbi Morey Schwartz, Melton's International Director of Education, hopes that through the large collection of primary texts, students will, among other things, grasp the real challenges to attaining peace in the Middle East.

The 20-week course, which is run every second year, provides a strong, text-based historical overview from the late 19th century to the present day. It is designed to shed light on the conflicting historical claims made by all sides and to encourage discussion and debate among the students, many of whom will discover new facts and perspectives.

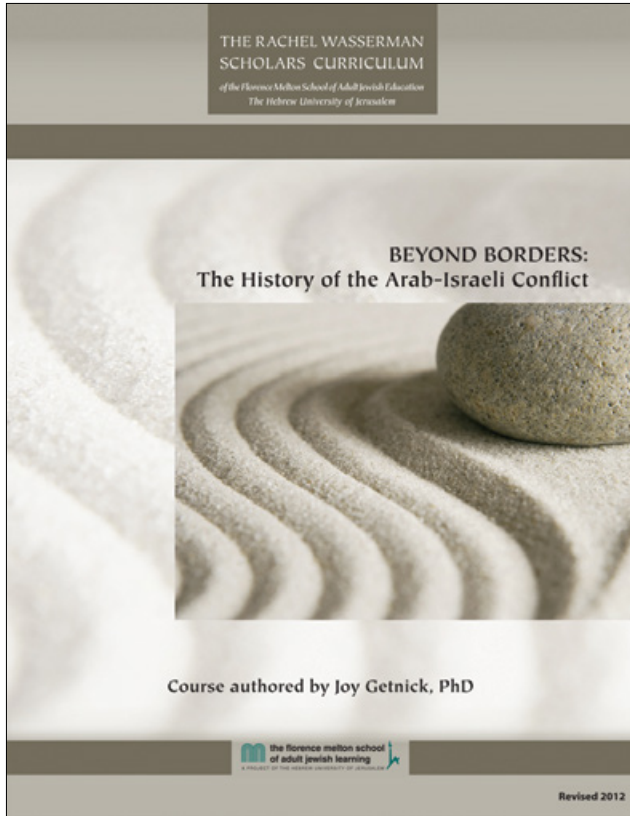
Ronnie Gotkin believes it's not possible to understand the intricacies of the wider Arab Israeli conflict — or the narrower Israeli Palestinian

conflict — without the background information that is covered in the course. "Each student will form his or her own opinion on the differing narratives and viewpoints, but having done this course, they will be able to ground those opinions on a deeper knowledge of the events which took place," he says. "At the start of the course I make it clear that this is a history course and not an Israel advocacy course — or for that matter, the opposite."

Melton encourages a mix of ages and voices, lay and professional leadership and target groups. The profile of students attracted to this course this year ranges from the political left to the political right, a mix of lay and professional leaders, and is intergenerational. Significantly, half the class are university students. South Africa is not alone in its campus battle for Israel legitimacy, with the BDS campaign and Israel Apartheid Week having become a challenge for students who want to be able to engage in discussion on a meaningful level.

For current student Lauren Kessler, who describes herself as "a young Jew with a passion for Israel and Zionism", there was "a significant lack of open, informative and interesting spaces within this community in which to engage with and explore this fascinating land and its complex relationship to us as Jews." For Lauren, the *Beyond Borders* course, has become that space.

With *Beyond Borders*, Melton has provided a resource for Jewish adults that is both relevant and topical in the world today.



Within Borders — A New Melton Israel Seminar

September 12-19, 2016

Melton has introduced an exciting travel seminar translating the *Beyond Borders: the History of the Arab Israeli Conflict* curriculum into a week of study "Within Borders". Classes are supplemented by field trips and meetings with experts who bring the texts to life.

Early Bird registration begins October 5, 2015. Contact Viv Anstey on vivanst@iafrica.com for more information.

Cape Town Holocaust Centre

Winter Film Festival



Thursday 2 July, 6pm

In partnership with the Swiss Consulate in Cape Town

A fascinating look at the life of Carl Lutz, a Swiss diplomat who saved tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews during WWII. His humanitarian action is considered the greatest civil rescue operation of Jews during the Holocaust.



Tuesday 14 July, 6pm

In partnership with the German Language Centre

A mesmerising film about the descendants of the most powerful figures in the Nazi regime: men and women who were left a legacy that permanently associates them with one of the greatest crimes in history.



Thursday 23 July, 6pm

In partnership with the Jacob Gitlin Library

This stirring, coming-of-age tale about an unlikely friendship shows just how hard unlearning prejudice can be. Inspired by true events, it is a tragicomic story about trust and the art of forgiveness.

Pola Pasvolsky Conference Centre, 88 Hatfield Street, Gardens
Free entrance to all screenings, donations welcome. Light refreshments will be served.
Please RSVP to secure a seat: 021 462 5553 or admin@holocaust.org.za (Please specify screening)





Sailing Together with the Jewish Maritime League

Our Unique Sailing Together programme

The SA JML's Sailing Together programme is a unique experience that has proven to be most successful. The programme brings together a diverse group of young people, whose commonality is their passion for the sea. The programmes have over the years taken on 2 formats, the one is to bring young Israeli and Palestinian youths together for a programme in South Africa. This allows them the platform to "sail together" as a team. The second format of our 2012 and 2015 programme, sees a diverse group participating in the Summer Camp programme of the Israel Sea Scouts held in Akko, Israel. Jewish and non-Jewish participants are able to bond as a South African team in Israel. For many in the group it is their first opportunity to travel abroad and to experience a culture beyond their borders.

The 2015 programme, commenced in May and saw the programme take on a slightly different format yet again. This programme, extended to include a number of activities such as dinghy sailing at the Sea Scout base in Sandvlei, keel boat sailing in Table Bay, a visit to the South African Jewish Museum and an introduction to safety at sea with the NSRI. Our dynamic, culturally diverse group has in a few short weeks, succeeded in fulfilling and excelling in all the ideals that the SA JML has set for them. They have actively participated in all activities and have positively engaged with each other. This strong team will depart for Israel in July, to represent the SA JML at the Israel Sea Scout camp in Akko.

<https://www.facebook.com/SAJMLSailingTogether2015>



Nicholas Rubin (16yrs), Adam Carson (16yrs); Richard Manion (15yrs); Gershwin Poole (16yrs); Sushmita Nowases (17yrs); Levonia Arendse (17yrs); Savanna Khoury (15yrs); Aryeh Ross (16yrs). Not in photograph: Zac Kruyer, Jack Stein and team leaders Jodi Goldberg and Yakov Zinger



Engaging with Marlene Silbert at the SA Jewish Museum



Lunch and conversation with SA JML Chairman, Ivor Sindler (Centre) and Council member Harold Heneck (right)



With Team Leader, Jodi Goldberg (front right) and NSRI volunteer.

SA JML Objectives...

- Promote, encourage and support all maritime-related activity within the Jewish Community of South Africa and Israel
- Support and develop community-based maritime education outreach programmes
- Promote maritime activity amongst the Jewish Youth

Sailing as a team sport has over the years gained impetus as a sport of choice for team building and skills development. Sail training provides rewarding and exciting opportunities for young people to develop valuable life skills such as:

- Developing teamwork and mutual trust
- Taking responsibility
- Gaining respect for themselves and others
- Working with new people
- Learning from 'hands on' experiences

- Overcoming challenges and developing the ability to solve problems
- Practising leadership skills
- Developing communication skills
- Experiencing an unfamiliar environment
- Building new relationships
- Showing initiative

Sail training is a challenging and fun way to develop self-confidence and change lives. It provides an intense, structured environment with defined boundaries and a clear purpose (the successful completion of a voyage). Participants learn to manage themselves and interact with others, boosting their self-awareness and confidence dramatically. There are no contrived situations on a sail training voyage, you really do need to work together in order to achieve a successful outcome. In addition, the sheer exhilaration of harnessing the elements engenders enthusiasm and a feeling of achievement

We passionately believe in our work and the opportunities that sailing provides in helping young people to...

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Develop life skills for the future | The development of skills sets that will support the increasingly complex management of work, families, homes, finance, leisure and citizenship and prepare young people to deal with the changing demands of the employment market |
| Engage with education | The development of personality, talents and mental and physical abilities that lead to life long learning and constructive roles as citizens in society |
| Get into maritime employment | Opening access and providing pathways to employment in the maritime sector |

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Family Announcements

CONDOLENCES — THANK YOU

FAY GOLDBERG

Dianne Feinblum, David and Howard Goldberg and their families wish to thank family and friends sincerely for their love and support on the passing of our dear mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Special thanks to Rabbi Wineberg and the Marais Road Shul officials.

Our mother, Fay, a wonderful gracious woman will be sadly missed by us all.

To place a family announcement, email: chron@ctjc.co.za or phone Tessa 021 464 6736 (9am — 1pm)

ROY SACKS

Freda, Jennifer, Barry, Mark, Rene and families sincerely thank Rabbi Wineberg, Rabbi Hecht, all our family and friends for their love and support on the passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and brother.

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Honorary consul visits Lithuania

Mr Paul Raymond Berman, honorary consul of the Republic of Lithuania in Cape Town recently attended the 6th Convention of Honorary Consuls of the Republic of Lithuania. Mr Berman was also invited to conduct a speech at the Baltic Investors Forum in Vilnius on 4 June – the topic of his discussion was global trade and foreign direct investments.

Mr Berman belongs to the Litvak community through his Lithuanian ancestry. This connection creates a historic opportunity to strengthen the relationship with Lithuania. Despite being

so far apart there is a huge interest among the South African Litvak community as well as in Lithuania to develop widespread cooperation. Today Lithuania is one of the strongest supporters of Israel and the Jewish people on the international arena. The Lithuanian Government pays very special attention to relations with the Jewish community both in Lithuania and abroad. The Lithuania of today knows and remembers the tragic history of its Jewish community and it takes special effort in rebuilding the trust between our communities.



Mr Berman and the Chancellor, Mr Alminas Maciulis



Mr Berman and His Excellency President of the Republic of Lithuania, Mr Algirdas Butkevicius

SAVE THE DATE

Jewish Care Cape Annual General Meeting

Thursday 3 September 2015

Time: 4pm – 7pm

Venue: Pola Pasvolsky Conference Centre at Cape Town Holocaust Centre

Guest speaker: Dennis Davis

Displays and information stands in the Succah Hall from lunchtime. Formal AGM proceedings from 5.30 for 6pm, followed by a light supper and cheese cake bake-off competition between the seven welfare organisations represented.

Parking is available in the Jewish Museum parking area



jewish care cape



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7 Nights from
Valid 1 – 31 October 2015
EX Cape Town From

R14 990 pps

4* Azanzi Beach Hotel

7 Nights from
Valid 1 – 31 October 2015
EX Cape Town From

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Change

Change is not easy and there is always some resistance. However it is inevitable and necessary in order for us to grow.

As part of our 30th anniversary celebrations this year we are re-assessing the impact CJSA has had on the lives of the senior members of our community. What have we done right and what still needs to be done. How do we reach out to the broader community with the message that the organisation deals with a positive approach to ageing and is not only a service for the aged?

We realise how important it is to look wider and tap into younger adults to ensure that in the next thirty years we reach a far larger cross section of the community, both to contribute to the organisation and to receive useful professional services and advice.

We are going through a rebranding exercise as the first step in rethinking how we communicate to this broader constituency.

Your Parents are ageing — what's the plan?

I was invited to participate in a symposium on 'Parenting Parents' organised by the Constantia Community. It was evident that the plus 40 crowd all came to the evening to learn something about ageing and how to deal with these issues. Also evident was that many were struggling with how to deal with ageing family members. Sadly they had no idea that CJSA is available to assist with such queries and make more informed decisions easier.

This certainly was an eye opener for me, as it made me take stock of what we are doing and how we are portraying and positioning ourselves.

So it is extremely important for us to relook at CJSA to position ourselves as THE organisation of choice for ageing seniors as well as those who have dealings with seniors, even though they do not see themselves in that bracket yet.

CJSA deals regularly with family members who are at their wits end as how to deal with issues — whether it's about a suitable carer, residential care or home based care choices, or the need for socialisation and social interaction. Our lives are busy and many family members are not available to drop everything to be at the beck and call of an ageing parent. We are able to allay fears and offer solutions, thus assisting with choices that are most suitable for all.

It is also so important to get your input as well as your constructive feedback.

Diana Sochen, Director.

"You can't help getting older, but you don't have to get old"
George Burns



Art with Sharon Lopis. Michelle Pietersen, Sharon Lopis and Audrey Shantall.



Nat Yamey, Issy Goldman, Bernie Goldschmidt, Hymie Becker, Brian Mersky and Alan Jacobs at the Milnerton birthday pop in.



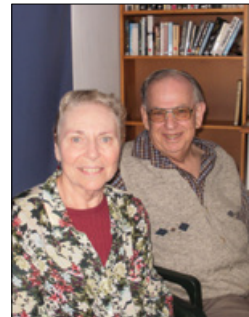
Marion Kaye, Henny Bernstein, Issy and Truda Goldman with flowers for Milnerton garden.



Yvette and Jeanette's craft morning in Sea Point.



West Coast birthdays: Alec Alperstein, Speaker Karen Kalmen, Cyril Bromley and Audrey Shantall.



Riva and Brian Mersky at the Milnerton Birthday morning.



Art ladies — Joan Matzner, Ettie Yamey and Doreen Levine in Milnerton.



Ivan and Sheila Sofer and Winnie Zick at the Milnerton Twilight Supper.



Nat Yamey, Heather Blumenthal and Bernie Goldschmidt in Milnerton.



Sea Pointers Edna Kawalsky and Carol Schonberg at Boeresjiek.

30TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS TO DIARISE

27 August
(note change of date)

CJSA Biennial Seminar
LIVING YOUR BEST LIFE
Transform your age – its how YOU play the game

Albow Centre, Hatfield Street
R350 per person, including tea and lunch

The emphasis will be on healthy ageing and how to make your retirement years work for you in every way. Our keynote speaker, **Pieter-Dirk Uys**, personifies how one can live one's best life, no matter how one ages.

Contact office for more information.

16 August
Musical Fundraiser

A highlight of our 30th Anniversary, will be the musical **Le Misrabbis**. Cantor Ivor Joffe is the Musical Director, assisted by Erez Shaked, and Irma Kesler will be the Stage Director. This adapted version of Le Miserables, with a special twist, will certainly be a hit and a must-see. Bookings open 1st June 2015 Venue: Herzlia Highlands School Ticket R360 including show and brocha, catered by Merle Rubin

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Births

Eddie Busch – great grandson
Jeannette East – great grandson
Megan Pitch – granddaughter

Birthdays

Fanny Greenblatt – 90th

Barmitzvah

Ronnie & Linda Levinsohn-grandson

Batmitzvah

Phoebe & Hymie Chernotsky – granddaughter

Engagement

Charlotte Berson – engagement of granddaughter

We extend our sincere condolences to families who have lost loved ones:

Rodney & Mervyn Beck – mother, Micky Beck
Robert & Dianne Feinblum – mother, Fay Goldberg
Zelda Maron – sister, Micky Beck
Merlyn Segall – husband, Jack Family of Lulu Shar
Meryl Sirin – sister, Sorrel Levy

Cape Jewish Seniors events

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Delicious biscuits available at R35.00 per packet</p> | <p>Monday 3</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 Talking Point with Marcia – R5 10.00 Beginners' Kalooki with Roz – R5 2.00 Beginners' Bridge – R5 2.00 Reminiscence with Hazel – R5</p> <p>Milnerton 10.00 Brenda Allan from Braingain speaks on "Ways to help with healthy brain aging" – R5</p> <p>Claremont 10.00 Outing and tour of Parliament. NB. When booking please provide ID. Tea for own account – R20</p> | <p>Tuesday 4</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 Helene de Villiers – a morning looking at words. – R5 2.00 Yoga with Leina Sank – R5 2.00 Lifts to Highlands House – R20 2.00 Art – R15</p> <p>Milnerton 10.00 A morning with Dr Saville Furman – R5 1.45 Line Dancing with Hannah Seinik – R5 1.00 Kalooki – set tables – R5</p> <p>Claremont 9.30 Social Bridge – R5. New members welcome 10.00 Kalooki – R5 2.00 Knitting group</p> <p>West Coast 9.00 Outing to the Clay Café. Decorate and fire your own article and enjoy tea for R80. Transport R30</p> | <p>Wednesday 5</p> <p>Sea Point</p> <p>Milnerton</p> <p>Claremont</p> |
| | <p>Monday 10</p> <p>Public Holiday – Women's Day</p> | <p>Tuesday 11</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 DVD morning with Hymie: 'Golda Meir – part I' – R5 2.00 Yoga with Leina Sank – R5 2.00 Mosaics – R20</p> <p>Milnerton 10.00 Cynthia Maresky speaks on her time in Lithuania, with a slide show – R5 1.00 Kalooki set tables – R5 1.45 Line Dancing with Hannah Seinik – R5 2.00 Bridge – set tables – R5</p> <p>Claremont 09.30 Social Bridge – R5. New Members Welcome 10.00 Kalooki – R5</p> | <p>Wednesday 12</p> <p>Sea Point</p> <p>Milnerton</p> <p>Claremont</p> |
| <p>Sunday 16</p> <p>Le Misrabbis CJSA Concert and Brocha at Herzlia Highlands – R360 per ticket. Booking Essential</p> | <p>Monday 17</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 Talking Point with Roni – R5 10.00 Beginner's Kalooki with Roz – R5 2.00 Beginner's Bridge – R5 2.00 Reminiscing with Hazel – R5 10.00 Special Bingo Morning with Noah Home. Special prizes R5. Donation for tea at Noah Home. Car Pool.</p> <p>Milnerton 10.00 Bingo Morning with Prizes – R5</p> <p>Claremont 1.30 Visit to Highlands House – R10</p> | <p>Tuesday 18</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 Pop In – A morning with Rabbi Hecht – R5 2.00 Yoga with Leina Sank – R5 2.00 Art – R15</p> <p>Milnerton 10.00 Pop in – Vanessa of Nielson's Attorneys speaking on when to use power of attorney – R5 1.00 Kalooki set tables – R5 1.45 Line Dancing with Hannah Seinik – R5 2.00 Kalooki – set tables – R5</p> <p>Claremont 9.30 Social Bridge – R5. New members welcome 10.00 Kalooki – R5 12.00 Yummy soup lunch – R15. Please book.</p> | <p>Wednesday 19</p> <p>Sea Point</p> <p>Milnerton</p> <p>Claremont</p> <p>West Coast</p> |
| <p>30th Anniversary Special Edition Kiddush Wine available R70</p> | <p>Monday 24</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 Talking Point with guest Marcia – R5 10.00 Beginner's Kalooki with Roz – R5 2.00 Beginner's Bridge – R5 2.00 Reminiscence with Hazel – R5</p> <p>Milnerton 10.30 Birthday Pop In – Gabi Nudelman – Teaching for today and tomorrow: some uses of technology in higher education – R10</p> <p>Claremont 10.00 Outing to Hillcrest Berry Farm. Transport R30. Tea for own account.</p> | <p>Tuesday 25</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 Chris Eden, Bridges for Peace speaks on 'Unravelling the Middle East'. R5 2.00 Yoga with Leina Sank. R5 2.00 Art – R15</p> <p>Milnerton 10.00 Café Bio – Movie to be announced R5 1.00 Kalooki – set tables – R5 1.45 Line Dancing with Hannah Seinik – R5 2.00 Bridge – set tables – R5</p> <p>Claremont 9.30 Social Bridge – R5. New members welcome 10.00 Kalooki – R5 2.00 Knitting Group.</p> <p>West Coast 10.00 Outing to Franschhoek Motor Museum – R80 including transport. Tea for own account</p> | <p>Wednesday 26</p> <p>Sea Point</p> <p>Milnerton</p> <p>Claremont</p> <p>West Coast</p> |
| <p>Sunday 30</p> <p>Sea Point 12.30 Sunday Lunch – R35.00 Booking Essential</p> <p>Milnerton 14.30 Sunday movie & tea "Black or White" with Kevin Costner and Octavia Spencer. R25</p> | <p>Monday 31</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 Talking Point with Marcia – R5 10.00 Beginners' kalooki with Roz – R5 2.00 Beginners' bridge – R5 2.15 Reminiscence with Hazel – R5</p> <p>Milnerton 10.00 Chris Eden of Bridges for Peace speaks on Israel report card – R5</p> <p>Claremont 10.00 Outing to Franschhoek Motor Museum – R80 including transport. Tea for own account 2.00 Yiddish conversation class with Rhita Waggenheim. R5</p> |  <p><i>Michelle Pietersen</i></p> | <p>PLEASE NO</p> <p>Social Workers: Sea Point: Monique</p> |

THE CAPE JEWISH CHRONICLE RECORDS ITS APPRECIATION OF T

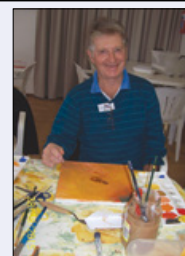
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Calendar for AUGUST 2015

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| <p>Friday 5</p> <p>10.00 Craft Morning with Yvette & Jeanette – R10 1.45 Social Bridge & Kalooki . All Welcome – R5 10.00 Art with Karen Cohen – R25 2.00 Ageless Grace with Cathy Hudson – R5 10.00 Bnoth – R5 10.00 Pamper Morning with caring team – R5</p> | <p>Thursday 6</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 Yiddish mit Veronica Belling – R5 11.30 Quiz – R5 12.00 Light lunch – socialise with friends – R15 1.30 Kalooki and bridge – R5 Milnerton 9.30 Kalooki – R5 Claremont 10.45 Birthday Pop In: Aron Turest-Swartz (Founder of Freshlyground music group) talks on 'Music changes everything'. True stories and original music – R5 1.00 Reina's Card Project – R 5 West Coast 11.30 Cynthia Maresky speaks on her time in Lithuania, with a slide show – R5</p> | <p>Friday 7</p> <p>Sea Point 9.30 Shopping with Malcolm – R20 Milnerton 10.30 Men's Schmooze Group with Rabbi Dansky. Topic to be announced. R10. Booking essential</p> |
| <p>Friday 12</p> <p>09.30 Outing to Lashies in Diep River – R20. Tea for own account 1.45 Social Bridge & Kalooki – All Welcome–R5 10.00 Art with Karen Cohen – R25 2.00 Ageless Grace with Cathy Hudson – R5 10.00 Mens' Schmooze Group – Craig Nudelman. Political climate in SA and issues affecting Jewish Cape Town – R5 10.00 Pamper Morning with caring team – R5</p> | <p>Thursday 13</p> <p>Sea Point 10.0 Yiddish mit Veronica Belling – R5 11.30 Exercises with Irene – R5 1.30 Kalooki and bridge – R5 Milnerton 9.30 Kalooki – R5 Claremont 10.30 Brenda Allan from Braingain speaks on "Ways to help with healthy brain aging" – R5 1.00 Reina's Card Project – R 5 2.00 Bridge – R5 West Coast 10.30 Diana Yach on her role as Chair of Jewish Care Cape and how she sees the community moving forward R5</p> | <p>Friday 14</p> <p>Sea Point 9.30 Shopping with Malcolm – R20 Milnerton SHABBAT DINNER at the Moadon. Spend a special Friday evening amongst friends. R45. Booking essential.</p> |
| <p>Friday 19</p> <p>9.30 Sharon Clifton plays music from 60s & 70s at Milnerton Playhouse. Must book. R70 incl transport. 1.45 Social Bridge & Kalooki – All Welcome – R5 10.00 Art with Karen – R25 10.30 Sharon Clifton plays music from 60s & 70s at Milnerton Playhouse. Must book. R50. Own Transport. 10.00 Pamper morning with caring team – R5 10.30 Sharon Clifton plays music from 60s & 70s at Milnerton Playhouse. Must book. R70 incl transport. 10.30 Sharon Clifton plays music from 60s & 70s at Milnerton Playhouse. Must book. R50. Own transport.</p> | <p>Thursday 20</p> <p>Sea Point 10.00 Yiddish mit Veronica –R5 11.30 Interactive Dancing with Shelley Eppel – R5 1.30 Kalooki and Bridge – R5 Milnerton 9.30 Kalooki – R5 Claremont 10.45 Birthday morning with Anna Marie Delle Donne – the archeological tour of Megiddo near Haifa – R5 1.00 Reina's Card Project – R5 West Coast 11.30 A morning with Sheryl Ozinsky, talking about the Oranjezicht Farm project – R5</p> | <p>Friday 21</p> <p>Sea Point 9.30 Shopping with Malcolm – R20 18.00 SHABBAT SUPPER at Marais Road Shul – members R40. Booking essential</p> |
| <p>Friday 26</p> <p>10.00 Interbranch morning at Claremont. Gordon Epstein on guitar – songs from the 50s & 60s –R35 1.45 Social Bridge and Kalooki R5 10.00 Art with Karen R25 10.00 Interbranch morning at Claremont. Gordon Epstein on guitar – songs from the 50s & 60s. Own transport. R15 10.00 Interbranch morning. Entertainer Gordon Epstein on guitar plays songs from 50s & 60s. R15 + transport Social bridge and kalooki R5 1.45 Interbranch morning at Claremont. Gordon Epstein on guitar – songs from 50s & 60s. Own transport. R15</p> | <p>Thursday 27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CJSA Biennial Seminar Time: 9am Venue: Albow Centre Keynote speaker: Pieter-Dirk Uys R350 including tea and lunch</p> | <p>Friday 28</p> <p>Sea Point 9.30 Shopping with Malcolm – R20 10.30 Men's Schmooze Group. Craig Nudelman Political Climate in SA and issues affecting Jewish Cape Town – R5</p> |

NOTE: DUE TO UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGES COULD BE MADE TO THE PROGRAMME

Nieuwenhuys 021 434 9691; Milnerton: Hajiera Safidien–Maloon 021 555 1736; Southern Suburbs: Yvonne Reynolds 021 671 4957; West Coast: Melanie van Emmenes 074 405 5186. **Director:** Diana Sochen 021 434 9691 director@cjsa.org.za; **Admin:** Irene 021434 9691 admin@cjsa.org.za www.cjsa.org.za



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Mental health and family support

A mental illness is a condition that impacts a person's thinking, feeling or mood; and may affect his or her ability to relate to others and function on a daily basis. Each person will have different experiences, even people with the same diagnosis. (National Alliance on Mental Health)

Mental illness is not something that a person chooses and it can be extremely debilitating, confusing and frightening. It takes enormous amounts of courage and work to stay on track to the optimal functioning of the individual. They face many challenges such as severe side-effects of medication, relapses and the stigma of mental illness within the community. The individual can become lost through their diagnosis and that is why family support is needed as the primary caregivers play a vital role supporting their loved one on the road to recovery.

- **Myth:** There's no hope for people with mental illnesses.
Fact: There are more treatments, strategies, and community supports than ever before, and even more are on the horizon. People with mental illnesses lead active, productive lives.
- **Myth:** I can't do anything for someone with mental health needs.
Fact: You can do a lot, starting with the way you act and how you speak. You can nurture an environment that builds on people's strengths and promotes good mental health.
- **Myth:** People with mental illnesses are violent and unpredictable.
Fact: In reality, the vast majority of people who have mental health needs are no more violent than anyone else. You probably know someone with a mental illness and don't even realise it.
- **Myth:** Mental illnesses are brought on by a weakness of character.
Fact: Mental illnesses are a product of the interaction of biological, psychological, and social factors.
- **Myth:** People with mental illnesses cannot tolerate the stress of holding down a job.
Fact: In essence, all jobs are stressful to some extent. Productivity is maximised when there is a good match between the employee's needs and working conditions, whether or not the individual has mental health needs.

According to the South African Federation of Mental Health about 1 in 5 South Africans suffer from a mental illness/disorder severe enough to affect their lives significantly. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) highlight some common myths and facts about mental health:

Jewish Community Services would like to highlight the important role that family members can play in caring for loved ones with mental illnesses. Family members face many challenges such as chronic stress and chaotic sometimes unpredictable behavior of their loved one which can have significant consequences within the family system. Fear and guilt are common feelings that can be experienced as well as isolation because no-one really understands what they are going through. Sometimes families suffer by being silent out of fear of rejection or judgment of others.

But what support is there within the community, and is more support needed? At Jewish Community Services more than 80% of our cases have a psychiatric component and the following support can be provided to the family members:

- Psycho-education — Helping the family to understand the illness in order to empower them to deal with the condition in an optimal way
- Assessing expectations of family members for their loved one
- Exploring coping strategies with the family
- Including when family with designing the care programme
- Assessing strengths and difficulties experienced by family members
- Crisis Intervention — putting a provisional plan in place in case of a crisis including assessment for safety
- Training in wellness recovery and self-care

In light of the above, Jewish Community Services would like to embark on a pilot project by requesting help from the community by asking family members to make contact to discuss what better support systems can be put in place in order to help them cope. Jewish Community Services would like, in collaboration with family members, to raise awareness, give a stronger voice for family members and strengthen support systems for their loved ones.

This will take place in the form of a support group specifically offered to the family members. Family members can send an enquiry or suggestions to sam@jcs.org.za or rhita@jcs.org.za.

NeChama * * * NEWS FLASH * * * PALLIATIVE CARE SUPPORT GROUP

We are embarking on a much needed new venture. Starting August 2015, a new support group for families and family caregivers of patients diagnosed with a life-threatening illness will commence.

Families of patients being treated for a life threatening illness or receiving palliative care can be profoundly affected by the challenges of the illness. These challenges may include:

- Inability of family members who witness the patient's distress to comfort the patient
- Inability to obtain the necessary medical assistance to relieve the patient's suffering
- Lack of adequate resources
- Inadequate preparation for the caregiving role

If unsupported, the impact of illness may have significant and enduring effects on the physical, mental, and financial well-being of family caregivers.

In light of these challenges potentially confronting families of patients living with a life-threatening illness within our communities, as an extension of our service, Nechama is starting a **critical care support group** for family members and caregivers. In conjunction with specific needs expressed by members that attend the group, it is anticipated that the goals of the support group will include the following:

1. To provide informational and educational sessions pertaining to the physical and psychosocial needs/aspects of the patients and their families
2. To link and refer families to appropriate community resources pertaining to the care of patients
3. Offer a supportive context to families where they may (in confidence) express and share their thoughts and feelings relating to their experiences of the illness.

The group will be co-ordinated by Fran Tong, a psychosocial palliative care practitioner, and supported by a Nechama counsellor. Clinical palliative care practitioners will be sourced as per the educational and informational needs of the group.

**Commencing Thursday 13th August
from 19H00 – 21H00 at JCC House.**

*For further information, please contact the Nechama office on
021 465 9390 or email admin@nechama.org.za*

Hope After Loss

Nechama is offering a series of 6 – 8 closed group sessions for young adults between the ages of 18 – 25 years focusing on loss of a parent and the appropriate support needed during this difficult time.

The group will meet once a week between 19h00 – 20H00, commencing Wednesday 5th August.

The sessions will be co-facilitated by Rhita Russon, Social Worker from Jewish Community Services and Jacqui Russon, an Occupational Therapist with group analysis background. This mother/daughter team will facilitate this group from personal experience.

*For more information and any other queries, please contact Nechama
on 021 465 9390 or admin@nechama.org.za*

Nechama workshop

'DYNAMIC CONVERSATIONS TO SHIFT INERTIA IN LOSS AND LIFE'

This workshop will be an opportunity to engage with one's loss in a solution-focused and illuminating way bringing about a lightness and hopefulness for the future.

Facilitators Cathy Barnett and Elaine Dendy-Young are both experienced Life Coaches who work with creating change in difficult and challenging life scenarios.

| | |
|-------|--|
| Date | Wednesday 12 August 2015 |
| Time | Registration from 09H00; Workshop 09H30 – 12H30 |
| Venue | Nelson Mandela Auditorium, 88 Hatfield Street, Gardens |
| Cost | R120.00 per person |

To secure your place, phone 021 465 9390 or e-mail admin@nechama.org.za

Banking Details Beneficiary: Nechama; Bank: Nedbank, Gardens Centre; Branch Code: 106909; Account No: 1069 278 939; Reference: Name/Workshop

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'Old Country' food with a twist

By Jaime Geller/JNS.org

Poppy's sour cream potato soup

My grandfather, Poppy, was nicknamed "Chefu," Romanian for chef. A butcher by trade, he was amazing in the kitchen. He and my grandmother each had their specialties. Anytime we stopped by their house off Philadelphia's Northeast Avenue, there was something tasty and fresh for us to eat. This rich soup immediately transports me back to his kitchen table with my legs dangling above the floor.

Prep Time: 8 minutes
Cook Time: 30 minutes
Yield: 10 cups

Ingredients:

3 tablespoons butter
1 large onion, finely diced
4 cups of vegetable broth, such as Manischewitz all-natural vegetable broth
500g very small red-skin potatoes, quartered
500ml sour cream
Kosher salt
Ground white pepper
2 1/2 cups cooked small pasta (such as square noodles, ditalini, or orzo)

Directions:

1. Heat the butter in a large pot over medium heat. Add the onion and cook, stirring continually until translucent, about 10 minutes. Do not let the onion brown.



A cup of Poppy's sour cream potato soup
Credit JOY OF KOSHER: Fast, Fresh Family Recipes by Jamie Geller

2. Add the broth and potatoes and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer until the potatoes are fork tender, 10-15 minutes.
3. Temper the sour cream by placing it in a large bowl and slowly, so that it doesn't curdle, whisking in 1 cup of the soup. Pour the tempered sour cream into the soup. Mix well and heat through. Season with salt and pepper. Place 1/4 cup noodles in each of 8 bowls and ladle the soup over the top. Serve warm.

Quick tips:

This recipe keeps the cooked noodles separate from the soup so they don't get mushy. Portion the noodles into bowls and top with hot soup just before serving. You can vary the recipe by serving it as a chilled soup. Omit the noodles and puree with a dash of nutmeg until thick and creamy. Top with chopped chives. For a fun twist, dress it up with Poppy's Potato Soup Cups. Make a spice rub to rim mugs for a fun presentation. Combine 2 tablespoons each paprika and celery salt in a small bowl. Dip the edges of 10 250ml mugs in water and then in the spice rub. Fill the mugs with soup and garnish with a dollop of sour cream. This soup is perfect with fresh buttered pumpernickel rolls.



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Glendale activities now on YouTube — search 'Glendale Cape Town'



Students learn practical skills at Astra

UCT Social Work students are required to do practical training at a registered welfare organisation. This is an on-going service offered by Astra as a training facility for students.

One of the reports highlights the experience and exposure to the Jewish community.

"My experience at Astra has given me a valuable insight into how life ought to be lived in general. Often we discourage people by amplifying their inabilities and forgetting to affirm them for their strengths. Astra Centre has a dedicated staff offering people with special needs (marginalised groups in society) an opportunity for employment. This greatly enhances their self-esteem as they offer competition on the open labour market and demystify the myths around disability. How the whole organisation operates is just breath-taking. I am blessed to have been placed at Astra for I learned valuable lessons that I hope to apply and share with other people in the near future. Special mention goes to Melanie Shapiro, a Social Worker at the



organisation, who works tirelessly to enrich other people's lives. My colleagues and I are more than grateful for the hospitality, time and knowledge she and her co-workers at Astra shared with us, giving us a firm foundation in our careers as servants of humanity." Tatenda Kaponda

As an addition to the program, Melanie (social worker) arranged for the student to visit the Holocaust Centre — a first for all of them. This gave them insight into the history of the Jews which they found to be "an eye opener", "heart-breaking" and "emotional". Another now "understood the strong bonds within the Jewish Community — and how this is portrayed at Astra".



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Bnoth Zion WIZO



Dafna Sher, Ronen Kaplan, Marc van Bergen, Brenda Trope and Felicity Isserow at the successful Bnoth Zion WIZO fundraiser "The Butler Speaks"

Bnoth Zion WIZO held an evening to remember at Banks Kitchen Boutique with Marc van Bergen of Heilbron Hospitality.

His talk included real life stories of a modern day butler and the true art and etiquette of table setting and service.



The Butler — Marc van Bergen

SAVE THE DATE!
 WIZO SOUTH AFRICA
 CONFERENCE IN CAPE TOWN
 Saturday 21 November pm
 Sunday 22 November am
 Keynote speaker:
 Dr Einat Wilf

UJW reflects on a year of service to community



The Union of Jewish Women (Cape Town Branch) held their 82nd Annual General Meeting on 28 May 2015 at the Hellenic Greek Club.

We were addressed by Lynne Raphaely, the National President of the UJW who highlighted the work we do both in the Jewish community and beyond. In presenting her annual report Leaza Cowan, Cape Town Chairman, illustrated that the UJW supports 25 Jewish organisations/projects as well as 31 outreach projects on an ongoing basis. The UJW also contributes towards Mandela Day, Mitzvah Day, One-to-One and runs the Can-Can Project and the Herzlia bar and bat mitzvah project, to name a few. In order to support all these causes the UJW hosted creative fundraisers including a soccer tournament, a teddy bears picnic, annual quiz, the shoe project and a tour of the Oranjezicht farm.

Sharing new projects that the UJW is becoming involved in was one of the focuses of the AGM. These include supporting a grassroots women's soccer team in Khayelitsha, Project Bayit, which is a shack building project developed



Freda Davis who received the Pearl Mandelstam Shield of Excellence with Leaza Cowan

by Andy Bolnick of ikhayalami — and highlighting the prevalence of human trafficking in partnership with A21.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Maria du Toit, the CEO of the Public Protector South Africa. She spoke about hope and our right to complain and explained how the public protector's office worked.

The AGM culminated with the awarding of the Pearl Mandelstam Shield of Excellence to Freda Davis. Hermoine Sternberg received the Freda Kapelus Certificate for over 15 years of active service.

An Olivia Scholnick painting was raffled and won by Shirley Gelsler.

Photographs: Adele Goldberg



Myra Goldenbaum (National Vice-President, UJW), Leaza Cowan (Chairman UJW Cape Town), Lynne Raphaely (National Chair UJW) and Dr Maria du Toit, CEO of the Public Protector (our keynote speaker)



Joy Fasser, Rika van der Merwe, Lili Watkin and Ada Newman



Phyllis Friedlander, Karen Fig, Sheryl Schkolne, Vyvienne Bloch, Sara Pascall and Leaza Cowan

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By Rabbi Malcolm Matitiani

Reflections before Tisha B'Av

On Motzei Shabbat, 25 July, Jews around the world will begin to commemorate Tisha B'Av.

I write this article less than a week after our celebration of Shavuot and it struck me that there are many parallels between this festival and the commemoration of Tisha B'Av. Shavuot is ritually connected to Pesach through sefirat ha-omer, "the counting of the omer". The Torah (Lev. 23:15-17) commands that we count seven complete weeks from the day after the "sabbath" of Pesach until the day after the seventh week — fifty days. Our sages understood "sabbath" to mean the first day of Pesach (as opposed to the Saturday during the week of Pesach) and so we count the omer every night from the second night of Pesach for seven weeks. The next day we celebrate Shavuot, which became the anniversary of giving of the Ten Utterances at Mount Sinai (originally Shavuot was the celebration of the First Fruits, "Chag ha-Bikkurim").

Similarly Tisha B'Av occurs seven weeks before Rosh HaShanah, a fact that is marked by the seven "Haftarot of Consolation", starting with Shabbat Va'etchanan, the first Shabbat after Tisha B'Av. This Shabbat is also referred to as Shabbat Nachamu ("Sabbath of Comfort") because this haftarah is followed by six more prophetic readings from the Book of Isaiah all with the theme of God comforting the People of Israel after their suffering. The mood of these seven weeks linking Tisha B'Av to the beginning of the Yamim Nora'im ("the Days of Awe") is in stark contrast to the haftarah of the three weeks preceding Tisha B'Av. These prophetic readings, taken from the Books of Jeremiah and Isaiah are termed "Haftarot of Affliction" in which the prophets warn their audiences of the dire consequences of not observing God's ethical laws. Thus the three weeks leading up to Tisha B'Av are preparation for mourning the destruction of the two Temples and other tragedies that befell the Jews of Europe, just as the three days leading up to Shavuot are preparation for hearing the Ten Utterances being chanted from the sefer Torah on the morning of the festival. These three days are known as Sheloshet Yemei Hagbalah ("the three days of limitation"), based on Exodus 19:12 and 15 where God instructs Moses to make sure that the Israelites are ready to witness the revelation at Mount Sinai.

The ritual counting of the omer every night for seven weeks forces us to make a conscious link between Pesach (the Festival of Freedom) and Shavuot (the

Festival of the Giving of Torah), illustrating the importance of moral and ethical laws to ensure true freedom and the safe guarding of human dignity. Similarly the chanting of the seven haftarot of consolation on the seven Shabbatot linking Tisha B'Av to the High Holy Days should instil an awareness of a connection between the two events in our spiritual calendar. The original reason for commemorating the fast of the ninth of Av (as well as the fasts of 17 Tammuz, 3 Tishrei and 10 Tevet) was to mourn the destruction of the First and Second Temples in 586 BCE and 70 CE respectively.

The Talmud (Yoma 9b) teaches that the First Temple was destroyed by the Chaldeans because the People of Israel were guilty of idolatry, immorality and bloodshed. Even though the populace of Judaea occupied themselves with Torah study and the observance of the mitzvot and acts of loving kindness during the times of the Second Temple, the sanctuary was destroyed by the Romans because of the prevalence of causeless hatred (sinat chinam) among the Jews (Yoma 9b). The historical record of the destruction of the Second Temple bears out this Talmudic assertion. Intolerance and hatred of the followers of one Jewish sect towards those of another simply because they had different interpretations of Torah or views on how to relate to the non-Jewish world led to inter-factional fighting that eventually enabled Rome to destroy Jerusalem and the Temple.

So while the Ten Days of Repentance from Rosh HaShanah to Yom Kippur is a time of personal atonement and soul-searching, Tisha B'Av should be a day of national self examination and evaluation. The ninth of Av should be a reminder of the dangers of intolerance and self-righteousness. Jewish communities worldwide are comprised of Jews that differ in religious practice and interpretation of Torah, political views (pertaining to the State of Israel and beyond), ethnic backgrounds and spiritual journeys. Some are born into the Jewish people and others find their way to Judaism. Tisha B'Av warns us that it is imperative to accept that we are a people that are at once diverse and united under God and Torah. Rabbinic literature is replete with argument and discussion LeShem Shamayim ("for the sake of heaven"). Similarly every Jew who is committed to tikkun olam and relating to the elevation of the mundane into the realm of the holy has a path to the Most High. As long as we express ourselves from the premise that we must be "light of nations" (Isaiah 42:6, 49:6) we must have a safe space to articulate our views without fear of being ostracised or worse. Needless hatred and fear of diverse opinions not only leads to the destruction of a society or a people, but it also inhibits individual growth because being challenged is the only way to undertake sincere personal examination, a task that we are supposed to undertake during the Yamim Nora'im.



Shavuot All-Night Long

It started with around 200 people at 6pm, by 11pm we were at 60, by 1am it was 30 people, but by dawn, with the birds tweeting in the trees, 25 congregants has stayed up through the night to daven Shacharit outside in the courtyard.

We kicked off with Ma'ariv and dinner followed by our annual Cheesecake competition. With the biggest line-up yet, the competition was tough and a big Mazal Tov to our 5775 winners who were: Zena Kruss van der Heever in first place and Tim Bourne in second place.

Then it was an all-night study marathon that included panel debates, Bibliodrama, Krav Maga, Jewish Ethics and the book of Ruth. The opening parachute debate pitted panellists against each other debating who the most significant Jew in history was and why they deserved the last parachute. Rabbi Malcolm (Moses), Glen Heneck (Karl Marx), Scott Haig-Roberts (Theodor Herzl), Mike Flax (Alby Einstein) Lauren Kessler (Hanah Senesh), Zena Kruss Van Der Heever (Miriam), and

Rabbi Greg (Yochanan Ben Zakai) battled it out with Hanah Senesh eventually taking the parachute in an emotional delivery including the fact that "out of all those on the aeroplane, Hanah would be the only one who would actually know how to work the parachute!" An idealistic group of post-bnei-mitzvah teens shared their thoughts on "How the previous generation has messed up the world and how we are planning to fix it." David Jacobson and Heidi-Jane Esakov gave a powerful presentation on the background to their wedding and how they negotiated their differences and those of the community around them, in a session entitled "Love in a Time of Intolerance". The hours flew by and before you knew it was time to greet the dawn.

Well done to everyone who stayed up and those who came past at 6.30 the next morning just to davven and thank you to all of the makers of cheesecakes, soups and other food, the givers of sessions, those who set up, cleaned up and helped out through the night to make this a memorable Shavuot.

Progressive Rabbis gather in Durban



Rabbi Sa'ar Shaked, Beit Emanuel Johannesburg, Rabbi Adrian Schell and Rabbi Julia Margolis, Beit David Sandton, Rabbi Greg and Rabbi Malcolm, Cape Town Progressive Jewish Congregation and Rabbi Hillel Avidan, Durban Progressive Jewish Congregation

At the end of April, Progressive rabbis from across the country gathered in Durban to discuss issues of mutual concern.

These ranged from how to be more inclusive for intermarried couples,

young families and GLBTQI members to choosing a new High Holy Day machzor. The two days were spent studying, praying, discussing and debating (and a bit of eating and sleeping too). Grateful thanks to the Durban Progressive Congregation for kindly hosting the kallah.

Open Mosque Interfaith Barbecue

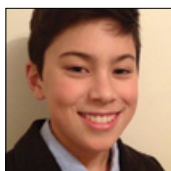
The Open Mosque invited members of different faith communities to join them for an interfaith barbecue at the Rondebosch Cricket Club recently. There was a huge turnout for a remarkable and relaxed day. People mingled, ate (kosher, halaal and vegetarian was provided), and later played the first interfaith cricket game! Dr Taj Hargey, the Imam of the Open Mosque, invited faith leaders to each share words and Rabbi Greg spoke about the shared spiritual heritage of Ten Commandments. It was wonderful to see a large group from Temple Israel including,



Dr. Taj Hargey, Roux Malan of the Unitarian Church, Rabbi Greg and Derek Hanslo from Christ the King Anglican Church in Claremont. Photo: Leanne Stander, Die Burger 20 April 2015

from our leadership our President, Roy Fine, our Executive Director, Eric Beswick, Chair of Temple Israel Green Point, Diana Sochen, SAUPJ chair, Alvin Kushner and cheder director, Mel Beswick.

Mazel tov to those who celebrated B'nei Mitzvah with us in the last month:



Taro Tomitsuka
6 June



Maya Reitstein
13 June



HERZLIA IN FOCUS

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Learning through play prepares children to engage in the 21st Century

Jos Horwitz
Director Early Childhood Education

The five Herzlia Pre-Primary campuses, situated in and around Cape Town, represent a microcosm of our vibrant Cape Town Jewish community. Children from 18 months - 6 years are cared for by Early Childhood Educators and Teacher Assistants who focus entirely on nurturing them through their developmental milestones with the aim to provide a rich stimulating learning environment within which the foundations for future learning is realised.

Our Pre-Primary schools are centres of excellence where children build a strong academic foundation through the medium of play. Our focus is on the whole child's social, emotional, spiritual, physical and intellectual capacity.

Each campus has their own unique and individual

flavour, which together with a superb team of Principals works to ensure your children have a happy, supportive and current education.

As the Early Childhood Director I am in daily contact with all campuses offering support, training, guidance and counselling to staff. Together we source the tools for excellence and the necessary material to ensure that we keep up to date with the latest educational trends.

We are proponents of early identification and intervention as we believe that the first years of life ensure rapid growth and development of the child through their developmental milestones. We work together with parents to ensure that the child progresses and develops the very best foundation upon which to build their future learning in formal schooling.

Our Grade R programme is designed to prepare our pre-schoolers for formal learning and we work in conjunction with the foundation phase in our three Primary Schools to ensure that the transition is smooth, successful and exciting.

Enrol Now – We welcome visitors to our school campuses and if you are interested in enrolling your child at any of our playschools, please contact Jackie on 021 715 3014 to arrange for an appointment.

DAFNA
Cheryl Bernstein

Herzlia Dafna Pre-Primary is situated in the heart of Milnerton and is a safe, beautiful haven for our children. Our newly renovated entrance, walkways and magnificent Astro Turf courtyard has enhanced the whole school and our children love to play soccer and socialise on our wonderful new facilities. Children have at their fingertips an animal area that provides countless hours of joy and learning. Dafna is an intimate, warm, embracing school where every child is accepted and supported and has a special place. Every child is counted and every child counts.

Our playgroup accepts children from 18 months. It is a home away from home. A place where the children learn to separate from their parents and where they learn in a language enriched environment. It is an informal programme within a structured environment. Our morning care, aftercare and holiday schools run throughout the year to provide support and relief for our parents.

Our Grade R is a far more formal, rich, creative, stimulating and exciting experience. The day provides many diverse activities including music, ball skills, Hebrew, Xhosa and Living Maths. When our children leave, they do so as independent, confident individuals ready to face the challenges and expectations of Grade 1.



Sarah Bloch: Dylan Reinders and Caleb Malia reciting the brocha for wine.

With our strong roots and our love for Judaism, we will continue to grow and build relationships together to ensure that the foundations for our children's education continues to give them all they need to build on their future successes.

GAN AVIV

Melissa Raubenheimer

Our beautiful school is nestled in the most magnificent grounds to be found in town! With each play area more inviting and exciting than the next, Gan Aviv is a paradise for young children to use their imagination, play freely and explore.

We take children from the year they turn 4 and they spend three years on our campus. Our school programme is challenging and stimulating. It offers children learning opportunities which are truly child centred and encourages age appropriate development through different mediums and activities. This allows children to grow and learn in a playful way. Our teachers are experts in their field and work together in dynamic teams to boost creativity and ensure our programme and teaching materials are current and exciting.

Gan Aviv has many working parents and we look for ways to support them and their children. We offer before care at no extra charge as well as onsite supportive interventions should they be needed (physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy). We run an aftercare on our campus until 2pm or we work together with Sarah Bloch Daycare Centre and our children hop on a little bus to head two roads down for full day aftercare.

Andrea, who is our outstanding aftercare co-ordinator, together with our brilliant team of teacher assistants, manages our aftercare programme at Sarah Bloch. We have welcomed extra mural teachers to make use of our facilities allowing children the chance to try yoga, karate, ballet, hip hop dancing, Experibuddies to name but a few.

Our special school is a warm and welcoming environment. Our most recent learning has been all about *Shavuot* and the children have transformed old shoe boxes into beautiful works of art. These boxes were then lovingly filled with fruit, veg, tins and other non-perishable items as *bikkurim* to be donated to charity. The children sorted and learnt about different fruit and veg as well as being made aware of people and children around us that are less fortunate than ourselves. Later that day the men from The Service Kitchen were thrilled to fetch the large donation, which provided enough soup for their soup kitchen for two days - what a *mitzvah!*

Together with the PTA we are delighted to be going ahead with improvements to an area of our playground. Our children have watched with excitement as the work has been underway and we look forward to many hours of play and fun in this new and improved area.

KEREM

Andrea Milwidsky

Having been Principal of Kerem for two years now, I feel like it is home away from home for not only our children but for our parents and staff too. At the core of this sentiment is the tangible



Sarah Bloch: The Penguin class celebrate Shabbat.



Dafna: Adam Walsh, Adam Beder and Samuel Videtzky enjoying the new astroturf soccer pitch.



Shabbat at Kerem: Imma (Rebecca Watson) and Abba (Kai Byram).



HERZLIA IN FOCUS

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

love and investment the staff have for each child and their families. Because it feels so familiar it is easy to forget how unusual and special that is.

Last week, while showing prospective parents around Kerem, I was struck by what it must be like to encounter our school for the first time. It is these prospective parents that give us a good sense of what stands out as being positive or unique. Many of these parents arrive to see our school already enthused as they have 'heard wonderful things'. The expectation of them being able to enrol their child at Kerem has shifted from having plenty of space to our growing waiting list as Kerem has had an exponential growth spurt.

There are many aspects of our school that prospective parents comment on. We are incredibly fortunate to have the expansive and varied outdoor space which provides numerous opportunities for play and creativity. Each age group has their own play area to ensure age appropriate climbing frames, sandpits, woodwork tables, bike tracks and play houses. Our playgrounds are all surrounded by beautiful trees which ensure the beauty of our school. Hard to miss are our vegetable gardens planted by our parents and enjoyed by our children. We also have access to the Herzlia Constantia swimming pool, sports field and tennis courts.

While walking around there are always sounds of music, fun and laughter filtering out of classrooms. These classrooms are managed by our excellent and experienced teaching staff. What visiting parents connect to, is how important it is that every child is seen as an individual and nurtured and educated through expertise, love and acceptance, to grow at their own rate into their own unique selves.

ALON ASHEL

Cheryl Lazarus

Alon Ashel is an old established school in a new age. While the world keeps changing with the advent of technology and digital communication, we hold on tight to basic values: to build a loving, safe and stimulating environment for our children, to care and nurture our parent body and to build the Sea Point community through annual events like our picnics, soon to be introduced movie evening, Fun Days for the whole family, as well as outreach projects to the wider community.

While the school has undergone some changes to the outside play area, and we have utilised every nook and cranny to cater for our ever expanding school community, the smell of cut fruit and baking on Fridays are strong sensory reminders of a time when parents where children at the very same school, and it is with a tremendous sense of nostalgia that parents relive their days as young children.

The celebration of the *chaggim* is a highlight of the Pre-Primary calendar. We ensure that children have hands on experiences that include many sensory components, and they are easily transported into the time of old.

Rabbi Sam Thurgood supplements the learning with his wonderful story telling skills, and June Hayman further supports the experience with her exciting music lessons. Serena Arnoni is a popular weekly visitor, who brings in yet another layer of learning to the children's experience of *Yiddishkeit* in the Pre-Primary school.

Our team of teachers, teacher assistants, social worker, educational psychologist, maintenance and

admin staff strive to ensure that our offering is of the very best, as we believe that we are in a unique and privileged position to be able to work together with parents in order to make a difference in the lives of the youngest members of our community.

SARAH BLOCH

Karen Lazar

Sarah Bloch, nestled close to the foot of Table Mountain is a really special place for two and three year olds.

The expansive grounds provide a wonderful outdoor play space providing tons of enjoyment and development opportunities as children climb, ride, jump and run, enjoy the sandpit and other play structures and interact with their friends.

Jewish Life and Learning comes alive for the children as they celebrate the *Chaggim* and *Shabbat*, with the stories and *Yiddishkeit* unfolding via music, art, story and drama. The child's sensory world is awakened in different ways as each child learns in his/her unique way – be it through movement, sound or sight. Fridays are special days at Sarah Bloch and it has become a tradition for each child to bake their special *challah* to take home and share. The fragrance of the *challah* baking greets each person who enters and provides an indelible memory of *Shabbat*. *Kabbalat Shabbat* is celebrated with singing of *Shabbat* songs, *brachot* for the wine and *challah* and inviting friends from other classes to join. Each child gets a chance to be *Imma* and *Abba* and *Bobba/Safta* and *Zeida/Sabba*.

For those who need it, aftercare is available with a delicious hot lunch, a quiet time to nap and an exciting afterschool programme.



Alon Ashel: Sarah and Ateret Hack enjoy Generation Sinai.



Sarah Bloch: It's Emilia's Birthday.

'MENSCH OF THE MONTH' BARBARA MILLER



Barbara Miller



ETAFENI DAY CARE TRUST Barbara is the Development Manager of Etafeni Day Care Centre Trust in Nyanga Cape Town. The centre provides 14 support, education and skills development programmes on the campus and through outreach programmes into the community, reaching up to 15 000 beneficiaries per year. As Development Manager, she is responsible for raising substantial funding and ensuring the quality of programme delivery.



BARBARA MILLER is a member of **The Mensch Network**. She was educated at Herzlia School and did courses on education, Judaica, personal counselling and group facilitation. She was the founding executive director of MaAfrika Tikkun (now Afrika Tikkun), heading the organisation for 12 years. She has also worked at Cape Jewish Seniors Association and was a LifeLine counsellor, serving on its executive committee.

Her education, cultural heritage and the impact of the Holocaust and Apartheid on her life steered her towards social activism and development work. "Be the change you want to see in the World" informs her social activism.

THE MENSCH NETWORK is a collection of Jewish South African individuals, who are committed to creating social change in our country. Members include people working in NGO's, social enterprises, academia, health, education, politics and more. The Mensch Network aims to support the work of its members, while also offering the Jewish community, insight to the work being done.

Volunteers from the recent collaborative Torat Chesed Study and Volunteer Programme dedicated their Sundays in June to painting at the Etafeni Centre. A day out and learning experience for all.



(left & above) Torat Chesed volunteers working at Etafeni

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Nepalese see Israel as a source of inspiration

Abigail Klein Leichman / Israel21C

When Israeli trauma specialist Naomi Baum arrived in the Nepal village of Mahadev Besi on 4 May, not one of the 80 families still had a roof over its head. The earthquake on 25 April destroyed every house.

“Some houses are standing and some are rubble, but they’re all uninhabitable. Everyone is living outside,” the Israeli psychologist tells ISRAEL21c.

The retired founder-director of the Resilience Unit at the Israel Center for the Treatment of Psychotrauma of Jerusalem’s Herzog Hospital went to Nepal for a week with the center’s Nili Lavi at the request of Tevel b’Tzedek, an Israeli NGO involved in community development in impoverished Nepal villages since 2007.

They assessed needs and provided psychological support to Tevel’s paid staff and volunteers (some of whom lost relatives and homes in the quake), to Israel Embassy employees and to the villagers Tevel is assisting.

In Mahadev Besi, Baum and Lavi taught stress-busting techniques to two groups of 40 local women, using hastily prepared copies of their resilience workbook translated into Nepali. She reassured them that their tears and fears were normal, and no different than those of disaster victims she’s counseled in Israel, Haiti and New Orleans. She aimed to impart a sense of hope along with the information.

“I also heard again and again their fear of the next quake. We helped them address that fear by letting them know that everyone was feeling this way,” says Baum.

Indeed, their fears were realized when another strong quake hit the region on 12 May, the day Baum and Lavi landed back in Israel along with the Israel Defense Forces’ medical delegation. Trauma center staff in Jerusalem will remain in touch with Nepal’s mental health authorities to offer assistance, according to Herzog Hospital spokesman Stephen Schwartz.

Before the monsoons

Tevel b’Tzedek founder and director Micha Odenheimer tells ISRAEL21c that the organization is providing urgent necessities – such as rice and tin roofing material – to 3,400 families (20,000 people) in the four most badly damaged villages in which the NGO regularly provides aid.

Tevel brought an Israeli building engineer and mud-building expert, along with Indian architects, to demonstrate how to build

sturdy shelters. Later, Tevel staff and volunteers will help families build permanent earthquake-proof housing.

“Now we are also building latrines. That’s really important before the monsoons arrive in June come because of the danger of cholera,” says Odenheimer.

“After natural disasters and displacement there is an increased risk of disease and widespread illness. To prevent outbreaks in our working areas, we are promoting healthy living by distributing hygiene supplies and conducting campaigns about the need for tooth-brushing and hand-washing.”

Tevel brought medical teams from two other Israeli NGOs, Natan and IsraAID, to tend the villagers physically, and volunteers such as Baum and Lavi to provide psychosocial support.

“We will continue to do workshops on resilience and talking about feelings. People who’ve experienced trauma find it more difficult to act quickly and we’re training to get them past feelings of paralysis and fear,” says Odenheimer, who was there for 10 days.

Tevel is creating temporary learning spaces because schools will stay closed for at least another two weeks. “It’s important to keep kids in a routine that helps them recover from trauma and to keep them away from playing in rubble, while giving parents a chance to get their lives together.”

Bishnu Chapagain, the Nepali director of Tevel’s activities in Nepal, earned his PhD in plant science in Israel at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. His agricultural training is critical to Tevel’s long-term project to introduce Nepali farmers to Israeli farming practices.

Many villagers, especially women whose husbands work abroad or in cities, tend family rice paddies and need greater economic stability in order not to fall prey to human trafficking. Israeli-trained agronomists currently are leading projects in seed production and establishing ginger plantations.



BGU Prof. Isralowitz, center, with some of the 119 Nepali students receiving psychosocial support in Israel. Photo by Dorit Segal-Engelchin

Caring for Nepalese in Israel

Three days after the deadly 25 April earthquake, Prof. Richard Isralowitz of Ben-Gurion University’s social work school got a call for psychosocial assistance from the director of the Arava International Center for Agricultural Training, where 116 Nepalese citizens are taking a 10-month training course on advanced farming techniques.

The students were distraught over the tragedy in their homeland but their families had urged them to remain in Israel. Every one of the trainees found out that their houses were destroyed, and many were grieving the deaths of relatives and the loss of valuable livestock. Ten young mothers in the class were consumed with worry for their children.

The next morning, Isralowitz arrived with two colleagues, Prof. Orly Sarid and Dr. Dorit Segal-Engelchin, director of BGU’s Center for Women’s Health Studies and Promotion. They discussed stress, stress responses and coping strategies, and then led art-based intervention sessions developed at BGU as an effective way for trauma victims to share and normalize emotions and fears.

“It was a moving experience,” Segal-Engelchin tells ISRAEL21c. “We spent four hours with them and they were very grateful.”

In the art sessions, all 116 participants

chose to participate in drawing what they were stressed about. Many drew dead people and animals, destroyed schools and houses. After talking about the pictures, they drew depictions of coping resources. Finally, the students were asked to integrate the two drawings into one.

“We asked them to assess their level of stress from 1-10 before and after the intervention,” says Segal-Engelchin. “We saw an amazing, statistically significant, reduction in stress levels among all participants, proving that this tool is effective even for those exposed to trauma indirectly.”

One of the participants prepared a PowerPoint presentation showing how Nepal looked before and after the earthquake and “kept relating to Israel as a source of inspiration for building something from nothing,” she relates. “He encouraged them to use this disaster as an opportunity to better their lives and make changes by bringing home the knowledge they are acquiring in Israel.”

Abigail Klein Leichman is a writer and associate editor at ISRAEL21c. Prior to moving to Israel in 2007, she was a specialty writer and copy editor at a daily newspaper in New Jersey and has freelanced for a variety of newspapers and periodicals since 1984.



Nepali children using toothbrushes supplied by Tevel b’Tzedek.



Tevel building latrines for Nepali villagers.

Israeli president awards Unity Prize in honour of slain Jewish teens

Israel Hayom/Exclusive to JNS.org



The inaugural Unity Prize ceremony in Jerusalem. Credit Mikan VHalal.

Israeli President Reuven Rivlin and his wife Nechama hosted the inaugural Jerusalem Unity Prize award ceremony on Wednesday at the President's Residence in honour of kidnapped and murdered Jewish teens Gilad Shaar, Eyal Yifrach, and Naftali Frenkel.

The prize is the joint initiative of the boys' families, Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat, and Gesher, a non-profit organisation dedicated to bridging the gaps between different segments of Israeli society. Its purpose is to recognise individuals and organisations who contribute to unity among Jewish communities and Israeli society, and it was distributed on the newly declared Unity Day, also created in memory of the teenage boys killed by Hamas last year.

The Unity Prize is awarded in three categories: Israel-Diaspora, Social

Initiative, and Individual. The Chabad House in Bangkok, Thailand, under the leadership of Rabbi Nechemya Wilhelm, won in the Israel-Diaspora, category; "Nifgashim Beshvil Israel" ("Meeting for Israel — on the Israel Trail"), an annual hike of the Israel National Trail initiated by Raya and Yossi Epner in memory of their son Avi, who died in the 1997 military helicopter tragedy, won in Social Initiative; and the Meetchabrim ("Connecting") organization's founder IDF Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Ram Shmueli as well as musician Rabbi David Menachem won in the third category.

"Different as we may be, we have a bright future here together," said Rachel Frenkel, Naftali's mother, at the ceremony. Rivlin said that "thanks to the prize winners, we are reminded that mutual responsibility, unity and solidarity are important challenges during difficult times and even during mundane times."

Jerusalem mayor saves the day — Again!

Nir Barkat restores peace in capital once more, breaks up street fight

By Daniel K. Eisenbud for The Jerusalem Post

Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat used his hands-on approach once again to restore peace in the capital when he broke up a traffic-related street fight while pedalling on his bicycle to work.



According to a municipal spokeswoman, the mayor was cycling from his home to his office in Safra Square, when he saw two men hitting each other on a traffic island in the centre of the road near Sacher Park. "The mayor stopped riding his bike and jumped to separate the two to ensure no one else was endangered," the statement said. "After separating the men, he called for police reinforcement, and stayed on the scene until they arrived."

The incident marks the second time this year that Barkat personally intervened during a violent altercation in the capital.

In February the former war hero made international headlines when he tackled a knife-wielding terrorist and helped pin him to the ground until his security detail placed him under arrest.

A surveillance video showed the Mayor tackling an Arab terrorist who stabbed a

Haredi man seconds earlier and then wildly attempted to accost passers-by near the capital's City Hall.

The video showed the suspect, identified by police as a 19-year-old Palestinian who entered Jerusalem without authorization, swinging a knife at bystanders after initially stabbing a 30-year-old ultra-Orthodox man at a junction in IDF Square.

Moments later, Barkat was seen rapidly and determinedly walking toward the suspect, as two members of his security detail ran to catch up to him. When one of the bodyguards drew his pistol, the suspect dropped the weapon and Barkat tackled him to the pavement.

DAVID RUBINGER. Eyewitness to History



Israeli paratroopers at the Western Wall as Jerusalem is reunified during the Six Day War, June 1967. © David Rubinger, 1967

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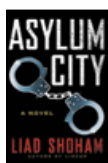
ALBERT, Elisa. **HOW THIS NIGHT IS DIFFERENT.** These short stories explore traditional Jewish rituals with youthful exuberance. From the death of a friendship, to a sexually frustrated young mother, to bat mitzvah-aged antics. Albert illuminates the struggles of disaffected Jews to find spiritual fulfilment with wit and wisdom. As the characters go through the motions of familial duty and religious observance, they find themselves hoping for acceptance and longing for more. A daring, risky and poignant debut.



FERRIS, Joshua. **TO RISE AGAIN AT A DECENT HOUR.** Paul O'Rourke has a thriving dental practise in New York but discovers that he needs more in life than a steady income and mochaccino's. As he tries to find the meaning of life, a Facebook page and Twitter account mysteriously appear in his name. He finds this an outrageous violation of his privacy and then something more frightening occurs — the possibility that the online imposter "Paul" may be a better version of himself. Genuinely funny and thought-provoking.



KLEIN, Zoë. **DRAWING IN THE DUST.** Fact and fiction are interwoven in this richly appealing love story. Archaeologist Page Brookstone risks her professional reputation when a young Arab couple beg her to excavate beneath their home. She makes an amazing discovery which will change her life and put her in great peril — the remains of the prophet Jeremiah buried alongside a woman with a set of scrolls which tell of their forbidden love. Powerful and suspenseful.



SHOHAM, Liad. **ASYLUM CITY.** A member of an organisation who fights for the rights of African refugees is found murdered in her Tel Aviv apartment. Anat Nachmias leads the investigation. When Gabriel, a young artist confesses to the murder, Anat is not convinced he is guilty and delves deeper into the dark criminal underworld of the city. Who can she trust when even the Assistant States Attorney is hiding something? An edgy, contemporary thriller.

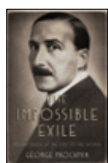
BIOGRAPHIES — MEMOIRS



ABRAMSKY, Sasha. **THE HOUSE OF TWENTY THOUSAND BOOKS.** A passionate elegy to the vanished intellectual world of the author's grandparents — Russian born Chimen and Miriam Abramsky and their vast library. Chimen was a rare book dealer who grew up Orthodox, turned to Communism in his youth and liberalism in his mature years. Great writers and thinkers, such as Isaiah Berlin and Eric Hobsbawn frequented the London home, which overflowed with books, ideas, personalities, conflicts and dreams.



MOUILLOT, Miranda Richmond. **A FIFTY YEAR SILENCE: Love, War, and a Ruined House in France.** A deeply moving narrative of the author's journey to find out what happened between her grandmother Anna, a physician and her grandfather Armand, an interpreter at the Nuremberg trials. After escaping Nazi-occupied France they built a home together in 1948, yet 5 years later Anna left and they remained divided. Mouillot finally pieces together their story. A rich, vivid description of a broken family.

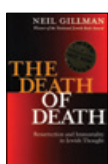


PROCHNIK, George. **THE IMPOSSIBLE EXILE: Stefan Zweig at the End of the World.** Zweig, a successful writer, had to face dispossession and homelessness after 1934 and the ordeal of being forced to forsake the world of ideas in Europe. He lived in isolated exile after fleeing to London, Bath, New York City, Rio and finally Petrópolis where he took his own life. Not a cradle to grave narrative but more of an essay on displacement. An absorbing, sombre and compelling account.

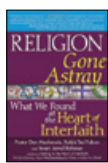


VINCENT, Leah. **CUT ME LOOSE: Sin and Salvation After My Ultra-Orthodox Girlhood.** An electrifying memoir about a young woman's promiscuous and self-destructive spiral after being cast out by her ultra-Orthodox Jewish family. One of 10 siblings she was rejected by her family at 16 when she exchanged letters with a male friend. Her father, an influential rabbi, put her on a plane and cut all ties with her. Alone and isolated from her community she has to struggle to define herself as an individual.

RELIGIOUS INTEREST



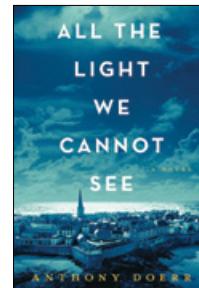
GILLMAN, Neil (Rabbi Dr). **THE DEATH OF DEATH: Resurrection and Immortality in Jewish Thought.** Judaism is often thought to pay little attention to the afterlife. In fact, Judaism offers us rich ideas on this subject. The fact that we all die is inescapable. But is death the true endpoint of human life, or is the soul immortal? And what of the doctrine of bodily resurrection; will God resurrect the dead? With astute scholarship, Gilman outlines the evolution of Jewish thought and breathes new life into a fascinating ancient debate.



MACKENZIE, Don (Pastor), FALCON, Ted (Rabbi) & RAHMAN, Jamal (Imam). **RELIGION GONE ASTRAY: What We Found at the Heart of Interfaith.** Welcome to the deeper dimensions of interfaith dialogue — exploring that which divides us. A Pastor, a Rabbi and an Imam probe 4 common problem areas: staking claim to a one and only truth, religious violence, inequality of men and women and homophobia. How can we use these "weaknesses" to open doors to better collaboration and interfaith healing?

BOOK OF THE MONTH

All the light we cannot see By Anthony Doerr



A mesmerising novel set in Nazi Germany and France. The lives of two children converge — blind Marie-Laure who flees to Saint-Malo with her father who is custodian of the Museum of Natural History's most valuable jewel, and Werner, a German orphan recruited by Hitler Youth to track the resistance due to his technological expertise. Doerr uses glowing metaphors and provides absorbing physical detail. Much more than a "war novel".



HALBERTAL, Moshe. **MAIMONIDES: Life and Thought.** Rigorous and insightful. This scholarly guide reveals the great Medieval Jewish philosopher's position on fundamental issues such as the nature of religious language, creation, prophecy, the problem of evil and the meaning of the commandments. Despite eight centuries, Maimonides's work remains very relevant to us today.

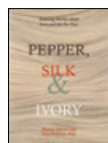


ZORNBERG, Avivah Gottlieb. **BEWILDERMENTS: Reflections on the Book of Numbers.** The Book of Numbers is the narrative of a great failure. What should have been for the Israelites a brief journey from Mount Sinai to the Holy Land becomes a 40 year death march. Yet the Hassidic commentators, drawing on mystical sources, see a very different narrative — a time of extraordinary spiritual experiences, a generation fed on miracles and nurtured directly by God: a generation of ecstatic faith.

NOTEWORTHY NON-FICTION



SOLOMON, Hussein. **JIHAD: A South African Perspective.** Professor Solomon has bravely tackled a controversial topic — global jihad activities in South Africa. He exposes the hidden activities of radical Islamists in South Africa. This informed book has been written with the hope that the South African government will try to arrest the situation. Professor Solomon brings to the fore the sharp reality of the dangers of politicized Islam for international security.



TOKAYER, Marvin & RODMAN, Ellen. **PEPPER, SILK AND IVORY: Amazing Stories about Jews and the Far East.** From Jewish traders who tried to survive in very isolated places, to those who built financial empires. From the story of Shell Oil, to Laura Margolis, the champion of Jewish refugees. Captivating, colourful and compelling stories to open your eyes to the Far East through Jewish eyes.

The Cape Town Holocaust Centre & the Jacob Gitlin Library
invite you to the screening of the film **KADDISH FOR A FRIEND**



A TRAGICOMIC STORY ABOUT FRIENDSHIP, TRUST AND THE ART OF FORGIVENESS

Alexander is an 84-year-old Jewish war veteran who is desperate to remain living independently in his Berlin flat. Palestinian teenager Ali's family arrive from a refugee camp in Lebanon. To gain acceptance from his new peers, Ali agrees to break-in to his next-door neighbour's flat... and Alexander and Ali's lives collide.

Inspired by true events, German director Leo Khasin's debut is a stirring, coming-of-age story that shows just how hard unlearning prejudice can be.

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Remembering the Rwandan Genocide 21 years on

Gwynne Robins

"We remember those who were murdered as well as those who survived. We commit to being a strong voice to keep the memory of the victims alive around the world and to support the survivors whose souls and bodies bear permanent scars."

No, this is not from Yom Hashoah. This is from the 21st commemoration of genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda held at the Cape Town Holocaust Centre, where the guests were told to commit themselves to the simple but powerful idea of 'Never Again', not just for Rwanda, but for the world.

This idea needs to be heard because here we are again, in 2015, with our country once more wracked with xenophobic violence. Events like these provide stark lessons as to what can happen when we forget the basic humanity of everyone and focus instead on insignificant differences. What Richard Freedman of the Holocaust Centre in his welcome called "the othering" of people, where we define people as different while intrinsically we are all the same no matter our pigment or religious belief — something that we in South Africa, Jew and non-Jew, tend to forget.

His Excellency, Vincent Karega, High Commission of Rwanda commented that they had gathered to continue the dreams of the fallen for all to enjoy a life of dignity.

"It doesn't matter if you're Christian, Muslim, Jew or non-believer, what does matter is that you join us to say 'Never Again', and to honour the memory of those

who perished."

This message was repeated by Ernest Kajabo, representing the Rwandan community, who welcomed the Holocaust survivors present and mentioned that six million Jews had died in the Holocaust and the message 'Never Again' was their shared responsibility.

Two candles were lit — one by Ernest Kajabo and Vincent Karega, for the one

million Rwandans killed and one by Gwynne Robins of the Jewish Board of Deputies and Stella Umuhiza, for the victims of other genocides.

...commit to the simple but powerful idea of 'Never Again', not just for Rwanda, but for the world.

Stella was 13 when her parents, siblings and relatives were murdered. She escaped and was brought up in an orphanage. She married young so that she could have

a family to which she could belong. At present, a mother of four, she is completing

her second masters degree at UCT and hopes to proceed to a Ph.D.

She is an example of what grit and determination can achieve while remembering and honouring the victims and commemorating the past, yet working to provide a better future and a better world.

Richard Freedman quoted Elie Wiesel who said that to forget the dead is akin to killing them a second time. This dignified event remembered the dead, acknowledged the pain of those who survived while echoing the hope of us all of 'Never Again'



The audience commemorating the Rwandan Genocide

An Interview with the Editors

"All points of view must be left at the door". This was the key message from the newly appointed editors of the Cape Times and Cape Argus, Aneez Salie and Gasant Abarder.

Salie and Abarder were invited to speak to the Board and other communal leaders as part of our Drink and Think series on 7 May. The newly-appointed Assistant editor to the Cape Times, Aziz Hartley, also attended.

Salie, Abarder and Hartley all have fascinating stories of how they came into their positions. From Salie's story of how he first distributed newspapers on his bicycle, moved to photography and eventually became a journalist at the Cape Herald and then Cape Times, to Hartley's story of how he went from being a janitor at the Cape Times, reading discarded newspapers to finally becoming a fulltime journalist, they demonstrated how with the right attitude one can achieve anything.

The editors discussed how the medium of print news is the best version of journalism. Although multimedia and electronic news gives you the most up-to-date news, newspapers give one the opportunity to receive news in a nuanced, unbiased and well-thought out way. Salie mentioned that he is both privileged and frightened to be the editor of the oldest continuously printed



Gasant Abarder and Aneez Salie

newspaper in the country.

After their respective stories about how they became the editors of the preeminent newspapers in Cape Town, questions arose regarding their respective viewpoints on Israel. There have been hiccoughs with the Jewish/Zionist community of late, and the editors did not beat around the bush

when questions were raised about the editorial policies of the newspapers, specifically the Cape Times or the Cape Argus. Abarder put it succinctly: He is the CEO of the

Cape Times and he decides what goes in to the newspaper. He is guided by the press code and the Constitution. Not only that, but newspapers are there to be the voices of reason and give people the most relevant information. There will always be mistakes, as we are all human. However, both pledged to maintain their warm relationships with the Jewish community and ensure that our views are always aired in a non-partisan way.

Newspapers are there to be the voices of reason and give people the most relevant information



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Live organ donation

By Daniel Eisenberg, M.D. This version is edited - a full version is available on www.jewishmedicaethics.com

While organ transplantation has offered a new life to those whose native organs have failed, it has raised a myriad of ethical questions. Although the issues raised in live and cadaveric donation are different, all organ transplantation questions have three ethical issues that must be clarified: with respect to the donor, the recipient, and society at large.

The Donor

As our discussion focuses on donors who are alive, the issues of desecration of the dead body and prolonging the burial do not apply. The issues that do arise are whether the donor is allowed to wound himself to donate the organ, and whether the harvesting is acceptably safe. In most cases, the prohibition of wounding oneself may be superceded by other considerations, such as medical necessity, or as in this case, saving the life of another.

The consensus of modern poskim (rabbinic legal decisors) is that one may undergo a small risk to save someone else from certain danger or death. Nevertheless, one may never obligate or coerce someone to donate an organ, even to save the life of another. Additionally, one may not significantly risk one's own health to save the life of another, and one who does is called a "pious fool."

With respect to kidney donation, the issue is whether the surgery poses a significant risk to the donor and whether living with only one kidney is an unacceptable risk.

Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach, arguably the preeminent decisor of Jewish law in Israel during the latter part of the 20th century, ruled that "if the seriously ill patient is present (and known to him...) it is certainly permissible for a person to even undergo much suffering, for example, by donating his kidney, to save the life of the patient."

Some decisors have expressed hesitation to allow live organ donation, concerned that the risk may be too great to the donor. However, as the risk of complication has been greatly lowered, even these opinions might permit live kidney donation.

Donation of blood and bone marrow are much easier to halachically justify. Blood and marrow are quickly renewable, and while the donation process is somewhat painful for bone marrow donation (sometimes requiring general anesthesia); both forms of donation are very safe, presenting minimal risk to the donor. For these reasons, these types of live donation are permitted by all.

Rabbi Auerbach felt that it is a mitzvah to be a bone marrow donor to save a Jewish life.

The Recipient

The perspective of the recipient is straightforward. So long as the donor is permitted to donate the organ, and there is a medical indication for the transplant, the recipient is permitted to accept it, so long as there is no other viable, less dangerous medical treatment available.

The recipient must be capable of following the post-transplant medical regimen.

The recipient must understand the risks associated with transplant, including the need for life-long immunosuppressive therapy, and must be capable of following the necessary post-transplant medical regimen, including being able to afford the anti-rejection drugs.

Judaism has no intrinsic objection to accepting an organ donation per se,

but only insists that no prohibitions be transgressed in the process of donation.

Society at Large

Societal issues also come into play with respect to live organ donation, the most sensitive being payment for organs. While society wants to provide incentives to increase the donor pool, incentives that are too persuasive may unduly influence a potential donor to undertake a course of action that is not prudent. Donors are routinely reimbursed for expenses related to donating their organ, but such payment is not usually considered to undermine the purely altruistic motivation of the donor.

Actual payment for organs themselves is a very controversial topic. Most experts in the field of transplantation, including surgeons and ethicists, have expressed opposition to payment for organs. In the United States, federal law prohibits the sale or trade of organs. The motivation behind the ban is a concern for exploitation of people who would not donate except for the monetary incentive, as is already the case in India. Additionally, there is a fear that the creation of a market in human organs will create an inequity between rich and poor. Those who can afford organs would be able to obtain them, while those who could not afford them would be left without options.

Judaism has no intrinsic objection to accepting an organ donation but only insists that no prohibitions be transgressed in the process of donation.

The best solution for society might be a national registry of people who are willing to donate for compensation.

Nevertheless, there are benefits to allowing direct payment for live organ donation. Obviously, it might increase the supply of organs, saving more lives, even if it does skew the distribution of the organs. Advocates of organ sales point out that society does not object to the many people who undertake dangerous forms of employment for monetary compensation (such as miners, soldiers, firefighters and policemen).

Another justification of payment for organs is that it would bring an end to the thriving international black-market in human organs, which now currently functions unregulated, with most of the profits going to middle-men, not the poor people selling their organs.

For society, increasing the organ supply makes fiscal sense. The cost of kidney surgery is far less than the cost of dialysis, which runs about \$50,000 per year. Even paying large sums of money to donors would save money in the long run.

But from a philosophical point of view, there is another reason to consider allowing the sale of organs. It may be a misplaced sense of paternalism that leads us to prevent the sale of organs by the poor. While other less traumatic means of helping the underprivileged would be far better, the reality of the world situation today is that there are millions of people who might welcome the chance to alleviate their poverty by selling an organ.

Society must also protect potential donors from coercive tactics or from being

preyed upon due to donor ignorance. Informed consent is an absolute requirement of live organ donation. For this reason, mentally incompetent people who cannot consent to donate in a meaningful way are usually barred from becoming live donors. A particularly interesting question raised by Dr. Steinberg is the case of an incompetent potential living donor whose primary caregiver is a relative in need of the transplant. The potential donor may suffer more from not donating if the caregiver will die for lack of a donor organ!

One may sell his organs to save a life, if it causes no halachic risk to the donor's life. This would not be subject to the prohibition of injuring oneself, because selling the organ is seen as a great need to save life and also because saving a life is a mitzvah which suspends all others. If however a lifesaving situation does not obtain, for example, selling organs to a bank or for research purposes, then doing so is prohibited. But if the motivation for his selling the organ could be defined as a great need (e.g., avoiding bankruptcy), it would be permitted.

This ruling may seem novel, but in reality is very logical. There is no particular reason why receiving compensation for an action which involves risk should necessarily be forbidden either morally or halachically. While most secular experts remain opposed to payment for organs, there is a growing support for the idea. In an excellent article in the British medical journal *Lancet*, the authors make several cogent arguments for why payment for organs should be revisited, raising each objection and explaining how it might be solved. A review article in the *Israel Medical Association Journal* also supported permitting payment for organs under tightly controlled guidelines.

From a Jewish legal point of view, the mere fact that one is being rewarded for an act, does not take away from the ethical value of that act. In fact, Rabbi Auerbach ruled that "even if the person selling his kidney is poor (and needs the money for himself) or to pay off his debts, since he obtains this money by saving the life of another Jew, he will certainly be doing a mitzvah. This is true even if he would not have donated his kidney only to save life."

If we put aside the issue of live organ donation itself, there is a precedent in Jewish law for the selling of organs. Rabbi Moshe Feinstein ruled that one may sell one's blood to a blood bank, as mentioned above. While blood is a renewable resource and blood donation causes no long-term disability in the donor, if the donation process for solid organs such as kidneys were to present no other halachic impediments, then the selling of blood and the selling of organs are similar issues.

Simply put, if donating an organ were to be permitted in a given situation, then there is no intrinsic reason why selling it should be forbidden.

Those who are hesitant to allow live organ donation do not object to the concept, but feel that the risk may be too great to the donor. Since the risk of mortality or serious complication from live kidney donation is now so low, even those poskim who had discouraged live organ donation might consider it safe enough to be permitted.

Regarding the sale of organs, if allowing payment for organs with proper safeguards would increase the number of lives saved, then Jewish law would sanction such an approach.

Postmortem organ donation

Rabbi Aron Moss from Chabad.org

Judaism holds life as being sacred. For this reason, donating an organ to save a life is one of the highest act of virtue one can do. But sometimes, precisely because life is sacred, organ donation is problematic.

Jewish law distinguishes between donating organs during your lifetime and organ donation after death. While you are alive, to donate an organ that you can live without, like a kidney, or parts that will replenish themselves, like bone marrow or blood, in order to save or vastly improve another life is one of the greatest acts you could do.

In theory, the same should apply to donating organs after death. Being that saving lives overrides almost any other moral concern, the opportunity to do so after our death should be not only acceptable but even obligatory. So for example, though the Torah commands us to be buried whole, this command would step aside for the greater command to save lives.

But in practice, consenting to have your organs removed after death presents some heavy problems.

It is forbidden to tamper with a corpse in any way unless it is in order to directly save a life. But when you sign a consent form to have your organs removed, not all of those organs will necessarily be used for an immediate transplant. They may be used for research, or stored away, or even discarded if not needed. Jewish law only allows organ donation if it can be ensured that the organs will indeed be used to save lives.

But there is a much more serious concern. To be usable in a transplant, most organs have to be removed while the heart is still beating. But Jewish law maintains that if the heart is still beating, the person is still alive. The moment of death is defined as when the heart stops. So to remove organs from a brain dead patient while the heart is still beating is tantamount to murder.

While the medical and legal world has accepted brain death as a new definition of death, the vast majority of experts in Jewish law have not. To tamper with the definition of death is to start on a path that can lead to major ethical problems.

This is a life and death question. We need higher wisdom to guide us...Imagine a case where 89 year old patient X is partially brain dead and, according to the doctors, is certainly going to die. Patient Y in the next bed, aged 35, urgently needs a heart transplant. Why not pronounce X dead now rather than risk losing both patients? It may sound reasonable, but it is taking one life to save another.

Some countries offer an option to give consent to organs being removed on condition that a rabbi is consulted beforehand, who will ascertain that they will only be removed after absolute death and be used only to save lives. In countries where no such option exists, we don't consent to the removal of organs after death.

This is a life and death question. We need higher wisdom to guide us. I wouldn't want to have to decide what is right and wrong based on my own subjective opinion and feelings. Thank G-d we have the Torah to give us clarity in these ultimate issues.

“Milk&Honey” is an event series celebrating the phenomenal, creative talent in our community, and building new connections and gateways to Jewish philanthropy

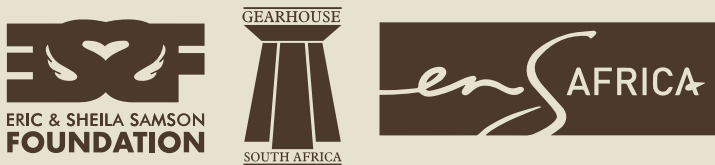
Milk & Honey



On the 7th of May, the first “Milk&Honey” music showcase transformed the Hatfield Campus into a magical, unrecognisable space, featuring 5 incredible bands (Lance Herman, the Rus Nerwich quartet, Red Tape Riot, Laurie Levine, The Plastics), 2 DJ’s (Ma’original and Jews For Techno) and hosted by the legendary Nik Rabinowitz.



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For more information, please email:
milkandhoney@ctjc.co.za

SIMCHA SNAPS



Nikki Stoch married Anthony Cohen Photo: Lauren Kriedemann



Stacey Shabason married Neil Stuppel Photo: Greg Lumley

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SIMCHA SNAPS



Joseph and Anita Kassel, nee Schnaps, celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary. They were married on 3 July 1955 at the Great Synagogue, Gardens, Cape Town.



Staci Abramowitz married Darryn Lazarus

Photo: Lauren Kriedemann





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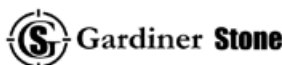
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USING MY NUDEL

Oh, Gimme Hope, South Africa

By Craig Nudelman

**The Beautiful Game?**

FIFA. If a picture says a thousand words, these four letters say a whole lot more. This organisation, which was established in 1904, has brought billions of people together for the love of the beautiful game: Football. Now the most powerful sporting federation has become an organisation synonymous with greed, corruption, bribery, and vote-rigging.

With a full investigation into the awarding of the 2018 and 2022 World Cups to Russia and Qatar respectively, FIFA has become headline news. And although FIFA President-elect Sepp Blatter has now resigned four days after he was elected, he is still the face of a sick institution which encourages, to put it lightly, bad behaviour.

I am very upset by this. Football is my first love (when it comes to sports, of course). Even our own 2010 World Cup is under investigation. I still remember that moment of 'Madiba Magic' when Sepp Blatter pulled 'South Africa' from that envelope. Tears came to my eyes (I am a bit of an emotional guy). That moment still gives me goosebumps. And that one month in 2010

was the best month of my life, people coming together to support each other, promote the country, to show we are a land of possibilities. And now with Chuck Blazer, former FIFA Executive Committee member, pleading guilty to charges that include racketeering, wire fraud, income tax evasion and money

laundering, and accepting bribes for our own World Cup; the Hawks investigating the payment of R120 million to 'diaspora football communities. All I can say is: Oy Vey...

But has this illness which affects football confederations around the globe made me love the game any less? Of course not. The off-season (June to August) makes me feel lost, not knowing where to turn when there is nothing good on the television. I am salivating to see Manchester United's rise to glory again after two tumultuous years. But corruption on this scale does indeed leave a dirty taste in my mouth. This is no different to South Africa, and the political climate we find ourselves in.

The Beautiful Homestead

I now come to Nkandla, a seven letter word which also has become so much more than the word itself.

The story about President Jacob Zuma's homestead in Nkandla first broke in 2009 in the Mail and Guardian, and stated that R65 million of tax-payer's money would be spent on an extension to the President's homestead. Initial complaints were launched in 2011 and 2012 to the Public Protector, and in 2014 Thuli Madonsela's 'Secure in Comfort' report was published. Madonsela found that R246 million was used to upgrade the facility.

The President has dismissed the complaints laid against him and on 25 May this year Minister of Police Nathi Nhleko released a report stating that Mr Zuma does not owe one cent to the South African tax-payer. Zuma has laughed it off in Parliament and it seems as though we can

do nothing about it.

Nkandla represents these same values of bribery, corruption and greed, jobs for pals and so much more. In Madonsela's report, she states, "While the majority of people in this country still struggle and fight for survival it is deeply disturbing to discover that the President and some of his close senior supporters feel that it is all right to abuse their positions to benefit themselves and each other at the expense of the nation and all her citizens. These individuals, in their capacities as servants of the people, should be held to task if they are in any way guilty of wrongdoing, abuse of power or corruption."

Does this sound familiar? FIFA and South Africa seem to be cut from the same cloth. They say the fish rots from the head, and one can certainly see how there is a ripple effect throughout the administrators of FIFA and the public service of South Africa.

How can the President of the Republic of South Africa, voted in to uphold the values

of the Constitution, use his power to his own benefit, and to the detriment of millions of South Africans? This make me upset. I love South Africa. I believe in the values of the Constitution. I also see the beauty of the people and the land in which we live and how our different identities, although a bit strained at the moment, come

together to form one South Africa.

I may be saying this from my privileged, Jewish enclave, where I don't suffer and still benefit from the ills of apartheid. But I also see the good we can achieve together, as one.

The Beautiful People

I've been listening to SmileFM recently, which is supposed to be the 'good-news' station. The other day I heard Eddy Grant's "Gimme Hope, Jo'anna". Although I used to hop to the word "Hope" when I was young, I now feel sad when I hear this song. Written in 1988, one can hear the tension that existed throughout the country, and how people were so sick of the system in which they lived. Miraculously, two years later FW de Klerk unbanned the ANC et al and freed political prisoners, effectively ending apartheid.

Jo'anna gave us hope and the idea of the idealistic Rainbow Nation was formed. However, even though the freedom fighters overcame the powerful, I think the phrase "She makes a few of her people happy, oh; She don't care about the rest at all" still resonates in South Africa today.

But I still have hope. If Sepp Blatter can resign and maybe change the face of global football in the future, perhaps South Africa can change. I have hope that South Africa and her people, with all our problems, will rise again and demand that Jo'anna delivers the promises for which our freedom fighters fought. Thuli Madonsela, on her 'crusade' against Zuma's maladministration, has asked, "Where are the people of South Africa?" Let's show her that we are here.

In latest shift, Orange CEO says telecom company in Israel 'to stay'

Newsdesk JNS.org.

At a news conference in Egypt in early June, Stephane Richard, CEO of the French telecommunications giant Orange, confirmed plans to cut ties with Partner Communications Ltd., its affiliate that provides cell phone service in the Jewish state.



Orange CEO Stephane Richard Credit Guillaume Paumier via Wikimedia Commons.

He had said that he would have the company pull out of Israel as soon as "tomorrow," but wasn't yet prepared to make that move. French advocacy groups had been pressuring Orange to end ties with its Israeli affiliate.

"I am ready to abandon this (business in Israel) tomorrow morning, but the point is that I want to secure the legal risk for the company," Richard said on 3 June. "I want to terminate this, once again, but I don't want to expose Orange to a level of risk and of penalties that could be really sizable for the company."

In Egypt, a campaign to boycott Orange claims that the company sponsors Israel Defense Forces units. "I know that it is a sensitive issue here in Egypt, but not only in Egypt," said Richard, who added, "We want to be one of the trustful partners of all

Arab countries."

Israeli Economy and Trade Minister Aryeh Deri responded, saying, "Boycotts will not succeed in imposing anything on Israel—the only way is communication and negotiations." Former finance minister Yair Lapid, the leader of Israel's Yesh Atid party, called Richard's comments "hypocrisy of the highest order."

"I don't remember [Richard] having a problem making money here and profiting from Israeli citizens," Lapid said. "The State of Israel

is an island of sanity in this difficult neighborhood, and we certainly won't accept lessons in morality from someone so self-righteous and detached."

Within a week from this statement, Orange had retracted and company is in Israel "to stay."

"Orange does not support any form of boycott, in Israel or anywhere else in the world. ... Let me make it very clear that the Orange Group is in Israel to stay," said CEO, adding that he "sincerely regrets" the recent controversy. "This agreement [in Israel], which was signed prior to the acquisition of Orange by France Telecom in 2000, is the only long-term brand license agreement within the Orange Group," the company had said.

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HABONIM DROR

Israel awaits for Habonim chaverim on an educational journey

Amidst much excitement, the first of July 2015 saw a powerful Shorashim group board a plane on their way to Israel, many for the first time.

Shorashim is Habonim Dror Southern Africa's Grade 10 tour to Israel. This year was the Ra'am age group's turn, coming off the back of an inspirational machaneh at the end of 2014. The programme takes place during three sweltering weeks in July and is integral to Habonim Dror's educational vision. Our chaverim need to not only learn about Israel and Zionism from South Africa, but also get the chance to visit the country, experience the lifestyle and visit historical and holy sites.

This forms part of creating a Jewish and Zionist identity for Habonim channichim and allowing them to engage in critical debates and issues. The tour goes all around Israel and provides both a more traditional educational experience, through activities that are run by madrichim on topics that relate to the programme, as well as education of a different kind — through seeing the beauty of Israel, its day to day



Shorashim channichim enjoying Israeli life in 2014

life and the deep and meaningful history and culture.

Following on from this will be Israel leadership tour in August. This is aimed at a select group of the movement's senior leadership and is also based on the importance of first hand experiences in Jewish and Zionist education. A concentrated group of Habonim madrichim will spend ten days in Israel meeting NGOs and activists, taking in important sites and getting to grips with the facts on the ground in a more human sense in order to further strengthen our education and ideology of our movement. This is therefore an exciting time as both programmes are highly important and fantastic opportunities for all privileged enough to attend them.



BNEI AKIVA

After a year here in Cape Town, we can full heartedly say that being here has been an absolute privilege for us.

Working with the Jewish community and specifically the Bnei Akiva Youth has been a truly amazing experience. When we landed, our feet hit the ground running. We made unique activities for the kids of Morasha (which is the Bnei Shul) helped run the monthly Bnei Tochniyot and made sure the whole thing was running smoothly.

Our time here is coming to a close and we are saying our goodbyes but everyone knows, also because we make a point of saying so, that we will see each other again, when they come visit Israel or decide it is time to make Aliyah. We say fare well to the beautiful Table Mountain, Lion's Head and Signal Hill; To the wonderful schools, mainly Herzlia; To the warm Jewish community that accepted us with open



arms and wouldn't let us be alone on any Jewish Holiday; to the amazing and special people who made Cape Town feel like a home far away from home and especially to the ones who made it all worth it, the Bnei Akiva youth. We haven't yet said our goodbyes to all the kids but we both expect that that will be the hardest part.

Behind us we leave a secure structure for the new Shlichot to walk in to; a strong and active movement with two activities a month — every other week a Mifgash for grades 7-10, the mindset of Sniff (grades 3-6) every weekend and a fun Tochnit with them once a month, really fun short camps throughout the year and a truly powerful three-week-camp in December.

It will be hard to go but we believe that we'll leave you in good hands and that Bnei will only grow!

All our love,
Tamar Saar and Lee-el Shoshtari



NETZER

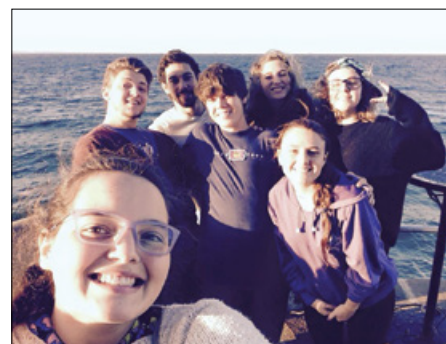
It has finally started. Big camp preparations are under way.

The Netzer national mazkirut met up in Durban for a long weekend of planning, brainstorming and bonding. The big camp name and theme have been decided on, but you will have to wait to find out what this year's machaneh is going to be all about. What I can say for now is that it is definitely one you will want to be a part of.

Netzer Cape Town has made it a priority to be active throughout the year, not just at big camp, so we have run activities for the community at Lag Ba'omer at Wynberg Shul, where the kids got involved in creating all sorts of crafts while enjoying the bonfire. More craft-based peulot were also held at the Shavuot festivities for the kids.

Netzer ran its own peulah in June. It was a camp-style rotating stations peulah of beading, sports, fun camp games and more. It was tons of enjoyment and it was great to bring back the camp atmosphere just for a few hours and remind us all why we love camp so much.

In the middle of July Netzer Cape



Town will be having a sleep over for all the channichim in all age groups. Our madrichim are busy planning really inspiring peulot. Make sure to keep your eyes open to find out more details.

This has been such an exciting year for Netzer so far and we still have so many incredible events prepared for the community for the rest of the year. Camp planning might have begun, but that does not mean that our smaller events will get neglected. We will have more events to build up excitement for camp.

Nilmad vena'aseh
Kalia Barkai



SA UNION OF JEWISH STUDENTS

This month's article is dedicated to all the amazing American exchange students who contacted us this semester.

It was the first time that they got in touch with SAUJS, the Kaplan Centre and the greater Cape Town Jewish community in such large numbers. There were approximately 30 Jewish exchange students from New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, New Jersey and Connecticut. Some of them were at local families for every Shabbat and others were just happy to attend our events. We formed friendships that will definitely last a lifetime and we will be sure to see each other again soon. This semester reminded me of the beauty of the Jewish community. We have a bond that transcends all borders.

Our time with the exchange students peaked at our annual Yom Yerushalayim party at the Vodka Bar in Bantry Bay. We celebrated the time spent together over sundowners and our mutual love of Israel. Our party had over 130 youngsters from all parts of the community. The guests were also tested on their knowledge of Jerusalem and the highest scorers were rewarded with vodka and tequila (student favourites).

With the start of a new semester we hope to see a new group of exchange students join us. We would like to thank the greater community for being so welcoming. We also hope that all the local students are ready for the new semester and passed all their exams!

Jonathan Levi

Another first for SA Jewry



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Closing date for applications: Friday 10th July 2015.
Only short-listed applicants will be contacted.



Institute of Sport and Exercise Medicine appint new director

Prof Wayne Derman has taken up a new appointment as director of the Institute for Sport and Exercise Medicine (SEM) within the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Stellenbosch.

His appointment as head of SEM will develop and strengthen existing inter-faculty links to further research, teaching programmes and service provision across the multidisciplinary team already involved in sport and exercise medicine. Stellenbosch University has a rich and productive history of excellence in sport, sport science & medicine, physiotherapy, nutrition and biokinetics and is a popular national and international hub for elite athlete training.

Prof Derman is a past president of the South African Sports Medicine Association and is Co-director of the IOC research Center in South Africa. He has had a long and productive career at the University of Cape Town where he has played an important role in the training of sports physicians, exercise scientists and

biokineticists. His research has focused on secondary prevention of chronic disease of lifestyle, and injury and illness prevention in athletes especially those with disabilities. He has also played an important part in the provision of medical services for many of South Africa's elite athletes having served in the roles of chief medical officer of both the South African Olympic and Paralympic teams. He currently serves on the International Paralympic Committee Medical Commission and represents South Africa on the International Council of Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation.

Professor Derman took up his new appointment on 1 July.



SA women's team compete at African Bridge Championships



Joy Swiel (CT), Maureen Narunsky (CT), Charmaine Lipshitz (Jhb), Renee Kenny (Jhb), Jocelyn Ashberg (CT) and Shirley Kaminer (CT) with non-playing captain and coach, Tim Cope.

The Egyptian Bridge Federation, under the auspices of the African Bridge Federation, ran the 8th African Bridge Championships at Sharm-el-Sheikh from 8 – 13 May 2015.

The South African Bridge Federation (SABF) entered two teams to represent South Africa in this event with participants from Cape Town and Johannesburg, who received South African colours from SASCO.

The Open Team consisted of Imtiaz Kaprey, Martin Grunder, Robert Stephens and Hennie Fick; while the all-Jewish Women's Team was represented by Maureen Narunsky, Joy Swiel, Jocelyn Ashberg, Shirley Kaminer, Charmaine Lipshitz and Renee Kenny, with non-playing captain and coach, Tim Cope.

With only the top two teams in each section qualifying to represent Africa in the World Bridge Championships finals to be held in Chennai, India at the end of September, the pressure to finish in one of these two coveted positions was very high. The Open Team started well and maintained its consistency throughout, comfortably taking the second spot behind Egypt. However, the result for the Women's Team was down to the wire in the very last match. By winning its final encounter against Egypt they were able to claim their silver medals and together with the Open Team will advance to represent Africa in India.

The event in India will be under the auspices of the World Bridge Federation, which is an accredited international sport federation of the IOC.

WP Rugby scores Jordan Chait

Western Province Rugby has offered 18 year old Jordan Chait a contract to attend the WP Rugby Institute in Stellenbosch next year.

Jordan started at SACS in 2012 and at the end of this year will become the 4th generation Chait man to matriculate at SACS. (His father Anton, grandfather Geoff and great grandfather David all attended SACS)

Jordan plays A team rugby and Water Polo and represented the SACS 1st water polo team in 2012 at the age of 15. At the end of 2014 Jordan was selected to the South African Schools U18 Water Polo team after the SA Schools tournament in JHB. He also represented the WP Currie Cup water polo U19 team in that year. He is the current vice — captain of the SACS 1st Water Polo team who have enjoyed outstanding success this year, winning the Kes National Tournament and the local WP Schools Knock Out Final. This has resulted in SACS being the number one ranked Water polo team in the country.

Jordan is also the Captain and fly half of the SACS 1st XV. The team have had a



remarkable season under his leadership, having won 9 out of their 11 matches). So far highlights have been victories over Dale College, Boland Landbou, Rondebosch, Bishops and the most significant, Affies, from Pretoria.

At the Kearsney Festival, over the Easter weekend, Jordan was one of five boys offered bursaries to attend the Sharks Academy in 2016. More recently he was selected for the WP U18 Academy team to participate in the SA Academy Week in Vanderbijlpark from 6 to 10 July.

The sports genes obviously run in the family; Jordan's father, Anton, played seven games at fly half for WP from 1989 and was captain of SACS 1st XV in 1983 and Jordan's brother Sebastian is a top horse rider having won the SA Championships in 2013.



Jordan playing waterpolo



Jordan in SA Rugby magazine



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