

★ JEWISH CAPE CHRONICLE

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Chanukah 5773

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Jewish and Greek communities celebrate a shared past

By Dan Brotman



The Jewish community choir performing at the event, which was followed by a recital from the Hellenic community choir.

Few Jewish and Greek South Africans realise just how much they have in common.

On 10 October, the Cape Town Holocaust Centre, Cape SA Jewish Board of Deputies, and the Hellenic community of Cape Town convened a first-ever celebration highlighting their shared history and respective cultures.

The evening was dedicated to the

emotional story of how the Jewish population of the island of Zakynthos was saved in its entirety by its Greek neighbours during the Holocaust.

The guest list included Consul Generals and prominent Jewish and Greek community leaders; and the event was attended by numerous members of both communities.

Continued on page 8

Herzlia Matric Valediction



The Zalman Avin Memorial Award for Best All Rounder in Grade 12: Joshua Buchalter, with Principal Marianne Marks.

The Herzlia Matric class of 2012 enjoyed a special and celebratory send-off at their Matric Valediction.

Learners received awards for their many achievements in academics, the arts, Jewish life, sport and much more.

See more on page 32

UJW celebrates 80 years



Margot Segal, Premier Helen Zille and Leaza Cowan

The Union of Jewish Women recently celebrated 80 years of meaningful upliftment work in Cape Town.

Premier Helen Zille was the keynote speaker. The event highlighted the UJW's commitment to outreach work, both within and beyond the Jewish community.

See more on page 23

A night to honour Israel

On Sunday 21 October, the South African Zionist Federation (Cape Council) took part in a special event entitled 'A Night to Honour Israel.'

It took place at Camps Bay High School and was a strong, united and passionate call of support for Israel and the Jewish people by the Christian community of Cape Town.

Attended by approximately 1200 people, the hall was decorated in blue and white, and the evening included a wonderful mix of soulful music, dance and inspiring words.



Sharon Ellwood and Holocaust survivor Miriam Lichterman

The keynote speaker was Michael Utterback, Director of Ministry to Israel; and Israel's Deputy Ambassador to South Africa Yaakov Finkelstein also provided an inspiring address.

Continued on page 14

YAD Golf Day 2012

YAD recently held its 11th Annual Golf Day.

The event was both enjoyable and meaningful, as proceeds went towards the United Jewish Campaign.

Generous donors contributed to every aspect of the day; providing prizes, food, drinks and more.

Both players and service providers made a valuable contribution to the cause.



The Stenham 1 team — the Golf Day winners: Francois Botha, Larry Sive, Jonny Osrin and Dennis Fabian.

More on pages 30 — 31

BZA WIZO Rebecca Sieff Awards



Members of Bnoth Zion WIZO who received Rebecca Sieff awards at a ceremony in October, honouring their decades of work for the organisation. They are pictured with Chairman Tessa Scher, President World WIZO Tova Ben Dov and President WIZO SA Tamar Lazurus.

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Stories**
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District Six**
pages 18 and 29

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Peace'**
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CAPE TOWN HOLOCAUST CENTRE

The story of Eva Schloss,
stepsister to Anne Frank.
(Robben Island event)
See page 19

An exhibition honouring the
rescuer Raoul Wallenberg.
See page 19

Reconciliation Day 7th Interfaith Pilgrimage

Monday 17th December
9 – 11 am.
See page 37

Commemorating
the 75th Yahrzeit
of Isaac Ochberg
Thursday 20 December
at 10.30am
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UNION OF JEWISH WOMEN Adult Education Department

5 December
Isaac Habib
The Island of Rhodes

Screening of 'UNMASKED JUDEOPHOBIA'

Thursday 24 January
See page 14

**SA JEWISH
MUSEUM**
'The Jews of
District 6'
See pages 18
and 29



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Shabbat and Yom Tov Times

Date	Portion	Candle lighting	Ends
7 Dec/23 Kislev	Vayeshev	6.30	8.28
14 Dec/1 Tevet	Mikketz	6.30	8.33
21 Dec/8 Tevet	Vayiggash	6.30	8.37
28 Dec/15 Tevet	Vaychi	6.30	8.39

N.B. The 1st candle for Chanukah is lit on Saturday night 8 December (after Shabbat), and the 7th on Friday night 14 December before Shabbat candles.

JANUARY

4 Jan/22 Tevet	Shemot	6.32	8.40
11 Jan/29 Tevet	Vaera	6.32	8.39
18 Jan/7 Shevat	Bo	6.30	8.36
25 Jan/14 Shevat	Beshallah Shirah	6.26	8.32

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



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TaliVision

Channukah 5773

Channukah is a time of gathering around a Channukah with loved ones; coming together as a community; and sharing light with others.

Like the glow of the Channukah candles; this edition of the Chronicle reflects all of these important values. Quietly yet powerfully, so many people are lighting up the lives of others by working to improve society and our community.

Putting half a century of work into the Cape Town Jewish community is no small feat; and in this issue we mark Eliot Osrin's five decades of dedication to improving our communal institutions (page 10). Over the years, Eliot has made an immeasurable contribution to communal life; and he demonstrates that each individual can make a difference. Furthermore, by giving of ourselves, resources, time and energy; we receive so much more in return. As he says, "I guarantee you will discover that, while public service improves the lives and the world around you, its greatest reward is the enrichment and new meaning it will bring to your own life."

Indeed, Viv Anstey writes that she thinks the younger generation are transforming from the 'me' generation into the 'we' generation: "Being global citizens means that young adults can immerse themselves in challenging environments and bridge divides. Sacrifices and selflessness are not descriptions they aspire to, but in their actions they will do whatever it takes to make a difference," she writes on page 4.

"It once struck me that there is more than a daily minyan in Khayelitsha, where young Jewish adults are going into townships every day to work in the field, all with the dedication to build a better society," writes Viv. Inspired and optimistic, she highlights that many Jewish young adults are making an impact in South Africa every day; and the importance that the community partners with these innovators and activists.

Our new 'Success Stories' column (pg. 8) has already highlighted such community members; like Glenn Stein, who has developed a cellphone 'app' that translates phrases from English to other official South African languages. It is through work such as this that we as a community can lead the way in connecting communities.

One community member who is doing just that is Bea Heymann; who has worked to uplift the town of Mamre on the West

Coast for many years; and has initiated a number of projects that are improving the quality of life there. Read about Bea's incredible work on page 28; where you will be inspired by her passion and drive in the face of enormous challenges. In addition, Miranda Kantor was awarded the prestigious Community Chest Award for her work as head of the Herzlia Interact committee (pg. 28). In our news section (pg. 6), read about how Israel organises Bar and Batmitzvah celebrations for orphans of Israeli soldiers killed in combat; and how philanthropist Martin Moshal is providing scholarships in South Africa.

Inspired by all this, we ask you to alert us to family and friends who are doing upliftment and interfaith work; and to share their stories with us. So many people are quietly and humbly acting every day to improve the lives of others; and we want to highlight their work and share it with the community. Together, we can help each other and make even more of an impact.

Meanwhile, so many community organisations are initiating activism; raising funds; organising events and leading the way in interfaith and interaction. The Cape Board's *TransformNation* strategy has guided their work throughout 2012 (see pages 12 — 13); and the Union of Jewish Women, B'nai Zion WIZO, ORT and YAD are all contributing to our community and beyond, as can be seen on these pages.

As we close a calendar year and begin a new one; let these stories inspire you to reach out to others over the festive season, and to continue such mitzvot in the year ahead. On behalf of the Chairman, Editorial Board and staff of the Cape Jewish Chronicle, I would like to wish you all a Channukah Sameach. As we light the Channukah candles; let us remember our power to light up the lives of others in the year ahead.

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CAPE TOWN JEWISH COMMUNITY VISION: 2025

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OPINION

By Viv Anstey



The 'we' generation and the Jewish community

My full disclosure upfront: This is written as an observer and participant over a few decades, without research on patterns and trends.

In fact, one of the challenges facing the South African Jewish community is that we are so under-researched, mostly responding to 'gut feelings' and hunches; yet we could be so much more strategic if we did invest resources in research.

This article focuses on the Jewish young adult sector. I am an optimist, encouraged by what I see. In my opinion the 'ME' generation is being overtaken by the 'WE' generation, which will add tremendous value to a challenging world; and the by-product will hopefully be connected and concerned Jews.

Many young adults I interact with care deeply about things. They are shaped by social media and are advocates for social justice. Opportunities to become global citizens are coming at a fast pace — with the click of a button you can connect with others like you or unlike you — a cyber world that can sweep you off your feet.

Being global citizens means that young adults can immerse themselves in challenging environments and bridge divides. Sacrifices and selflessness are not descriptions they aspire to, but they will do whatever it takes to make a difference.

At the same time, their Jewish identity is defined by tradition and history, but there are dichotomies due to their context: the extent of their knowledge versus personal meaning; Israel with its highs and lows versus its centrality to their lives; and their feelings of connection versus alienation.

A minyan in Khayelitsha

I believe that in a way, this is a direct product of a fractured South Africa. Democracy is about choice. Young adults are voting with their feet, getting involved in a serious way in a wide range of sectors around them.

It once struck me that there is more than a daily minyan in Khayelitsha, where young Jewish adults are going into townships every day to work in the field, all with the dedication to build a better society.

Social entrepreneurship has evolved beyond the NGO sector, and many Jewish young adults are making their mark and influencing a generation. For many, employment choices reflect altruism. Why not in our Jewish community?

Our young adults are working in research, the environment, social action and community development. In medicine some have chosen to be activists; and law is being utilised as a framework to tackle challenges. Some of the initiatives I have come across includes mentorship and tutoring projects; and volunteering in areas such as the education and housing crises, which involve huge amounts of time, commitment and dedication.

Campus activities and politics consume students who are trying to take on and defend positions, against all odds. Youth movement leadership is an all-year-round investment with the aim of

igniting identity, crafting a social space, developing a passion for experiential learning, and connecting with Israel. Interfaith programmes stretch our youth beyond their comfort zones, creating a new generation of integrated Jews.

The few young adult initiatives that have emerged here are mostly imported or take place outside of the community. No wonder models like the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, Limmud South Africa, the Mini-Nachum Goldmann Fellowship and the Schusterman Foundation have taken root here — because we are thin on the ground when it comes to young adult Jewish innovation.

Innovating from within

Our organised community, albeit extremely well-structured, has not had a major 'face lift' in generations. We have failed to meaningfully nurture innovation, allocate adequate budgets or prioritise the needs of young adults, or incentivise them towards excellence. We fail to notice what is staring us in the face — over and over again our Jewish young adults excel at something that engenders a public profile, and we don't headhunt these ambassadors to partner with us or do the same for our community.

The Mail & Guardian features 200 prolific young South Africans and there are always a few Jewish names included. Graduates of our Jewish day schools, youth movements and campus leadership produce talented and dedicated people who are not being 'captured' by our community.

We view challenging, engaging or questioning with disdain rather than the excitement that someone cares enough to invest in dialogue or argument; that these people are worth investing in. I want our community to wake up and take notice of our children — the next generation. We need to throw money at them. Let's steer young adults towards us rather than accuse them of going astray. Let's embrace each of these gems and attract them to innovate from within. The challenge of the community is to offer options on their terms. Support their endeavors with pride; incentivise them, offer scholarships and launch 'idea banks' to enrich our community.

Diversity can be framed in a positive way that acknowledges a natural progression of our community to welcome change. There is strength in diversity. We are relevant as a community when we understand the needs of each generation and don't mould them into what we want them to be; but embrace who they are as partners, invested in a future that they want. Let's create a pilot project for change, designed across constituencies, that is adequately resourced and sets new benchmarks.

Viv Anstey is the Director of the Midrasa Adult Education Institute, which runs the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning; a co-founder of Limmud South Africa, first Director of the SA Jewish Museum and an executive member of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, Cape Council.

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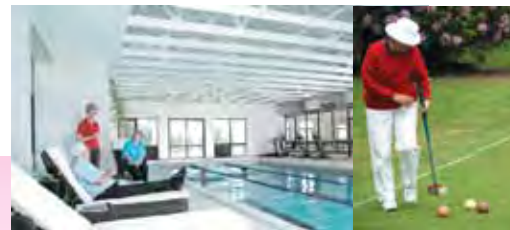
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NEWS

Moshal Scholarship Programme launched in Cape Town

By Alana Baranov

"Education is the most powerful weapon that you can use to change the world", said Nelson Mandela.

These words from a South African icon are the inspiration behind the extraordinary Moshal Scholarship Programme. Founded in 2009 by Durban-born entrepreneur and venture capitalist Martin Moshal, the programme aims to provide financial support to promising young students who would otherwise not have access to tertiary education.

Believing that higher education builds bridges from impoverishment to economic freedom, the Moshal Scholarship Programme provides students with access to university and thereby endeavours to break the cycle of poverty. The programme already supports over 250 students, with full scholarships at top universities across South Africa and Israel. The first cohort of students are graduating this year.

UCT event

The first South African 'Moshal Scholars' event took place on Sunday 23 September at Smuts Hall at the University of Cape Town, Moshal's *alma mater*. This was the first of many planned opportunities for students to engage and interact with one another, and forms part of the Moshal Scholarship Programme's commitment to building networks for multi-faceted and long-term support to its students.

The gathering was addressed by Dr Max Price, Vice Chancellor of the University of Cape Town, who stressed that access to higher education is the single most important intervention in moving people towards a middle class environment. Dr Price praised the efforts of the programme, highlighting that it not only provides many young people with the prospect of further study, but also allows universities to raise the quality of the education they provide to that of 'world class' by funding the fees.

Programme founder Martin Moshal then spoke, telling the story of his rise to success from his days at the local Jewish day school in Durban to his university years and business accomplishments.



Moshal Scholars at the event at UCT.



Martin Moshal, founder of the Moshal Scholarship Programme

Moshal stressed that education cannot be taken away from a person, and urged his scholars to use this time in their lives to, "soak up knowledge like a sponge". Although success is generally measured in financial terms, Moshal felt that, "all we can ever own are the good deeds we have done... success should be measured by what you do in the world".

Moshal Scholars then had the opportunity to address their peers and invited guests, with many telling the audience what the scholarship meant to them. "The Moshal Programme said to me, 'If you believe in yourself, then I will believe in you'", said one young student studying for a Bachelor of Commerce degree with hopes of becoming a chartered accountant.

The ethos of the Moshal Scholarship Programme is to make a difference to as many lives as possible. "There are no strings attached to the scholarships. Pay it forward," Moshal told the crowd, "wherever and whenever you have the opportunity to help others. It doesn't have to be in money. It can be in time, advice or effort".

A version of this article previously appeared in the SA Jewish Report.

Israel embraces IDF orphans with Bar and Batmitzvah celebration

by Daniel Tuksar

On 29 October, boys and girls of Bar and Batmitzvah age visited Jerusalem, sang and danced at the Kotel and cried together with their family members.



These were no ordinary children celebrating their special day — they have all lost a parent who fell while protecting Israel. Their tears of joy were mixed with those of sorrow; missing their father who was killed in Gaza or on the Lebanese border, often barely having a chance to meet him.

The day was generously sponsored by donors from around the world. "These boys and girls have made the ultimate sacrifice. We feel responsible to those who have fallen to make sure a smile comes back to their children's faces," said one speaker.

The IDF Widows & Orphans Organisation (www.idfwo.org) was behind this truly memorable day, and they create many more amazing experiences for these children. Throughout their lives the orphans are assisted in many ways, provided with school equipment and university scholarships. For their Bar and Batmitzvahs they visit Canada and the U.S., where they are hosted by Jewish communities, and spend 10 days at a machaneh. Throughout the year, hundreds of orphans attend camps around Israel, celebrating Hanukkah, Pesach and Sukkot, hiking, barbecuing and learning about Israel. They also spend time together, able to talk about their tragedies to other children who understand them all too well.

This year's celebration was truly remarkable. Children, who in addition to suffering the loss of a parent are constantly suffering from rocket attacks from Gaza, toured the Old City and gathered next to the Kotel. The festivities were continued by warm words by the IDF Chief Rabbi Rafi Peretz, stating that "their parents, the heroes, fell for all of us, fighting for the unity of the Jewish people — the most crucial value." At the Kotel, the children were called to the Torah.

Joy and sorrow

In the evening, a reception was held at the Jerusalem Theatre, where the celebration was joined by the President



of Israel, Shimon Peres; IDF Chief of Staff, Lieutenant-General Benny Gantz; representatives from the Ministry of Defense; the Israeli Police and friends from Israel and around the world. Seven of the boys and girls spoke of their fathers and the tragic circumstances in which they fell, lighting candles in their memory.

President Peres told the children: "You're the most precious things we have." He continued by noting that no other country in the world had been forced to fight seven wars in 64 years of its existence. Logically, he remarked, Israel should have lost those wars, as we were outnumbered in each one of them. But love of the country, together with the incredible commitment of our soldiers, had resulted in victories. It is your parents, our soldiers, the President said, that are true heroes of Israel — "you should remember them proudly."

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu sent a video, congratulating the youngsters and wishing for each child to realise his or her dreams and contribute to the nation.

Chief of Staff Gantz said that everyone would like to turn the clock back so that a celebration of this kind, without a parent, could be avoided. Their parents wanted to protect Israel, and have tragically paid the highest price for their courage.

For more information on the IDF Widows & Orphans Organisation and 'twinning' with Bar and Batmitzvah children, or an invitation to next year's celebration, please visit www.idfwo.org or contact Daniel@idfwo.org

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PO Box 4176 Cape Town 8000 or e-mail: chron@ctjc.co.za

Norman Spiro's letter on page 8 of your November issue brought back memories and sparked a revisit to some memorabilia kept for years until my son Greg dusted them down and framed them.

It strikes me that there must be a lot of stuff, including photographs still kept by Machalniks, which might be donated to and collected by the museum as a collection. I would be happy to hand over

my photos etcetera, and help if there are others who also have 'stuff' for collection.

I remember Norman very well and some of the others in Norman's photo... but I cannot remember being at the 1950 reunion. I was at a later gathering at the Sea Point home of the Ambassador attended by Ezer Weizmann....alas no photos.

Sincerely, Sam Zinn

I refer to the letter from Norman Spiro with a photograph in the November issue of the Cape Jewish Chronicle. Unfortunately Norman passed away, but I would suggest that someone in Cape Town obtains the list of the 100 names to which he refers

and somewhere they should be kept in the records. Norman also had movies of Zionist youth meetings and camps in the early 50s.

Kind regards, Ben Rabinowitz

From the Chronicle's Facebook page...



Jessica Leschnikoff:

Hi, can anyone help me trace my great uncle Aubrey Woolf Joel? He was married to Barbara Pulvermacher, and they both lived in Cape Town and Joburg... Aubrey was

related to the Randlord family of Joels that incorporated Woolf Joel and Barney Barnato.

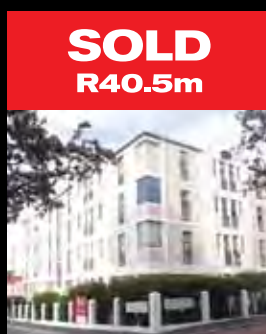
If anyone can help Jessica, please answer her on the Chronicle Facebook page or email the Chronicle office.

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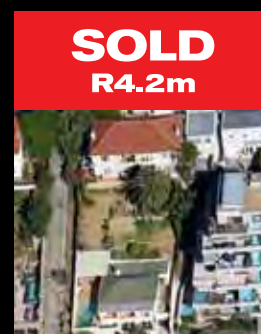
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The Jews of Zakynthos

Continued from page 1

Hellenic community president Nassos Martalas welcomed to the Hellenic Community Centre more than 450 Jewish and Greek community members in attendance.

He also acknowledged the presence of John Brownstone, a local WWII air force pilot who was the only Jew from his town in Greece to survive the Holocaust.

Zakynthos is a Greek island in the Ionian Sea. Its Jews were part of the Romaniot minority, which unlike the Sephardi majority, were Hellenised and spoke Greek. 92% of Greece's Romaniot Jews perished in the Holocaust.

Martalas recounted Greece's resistance and victory against the Italian invasion of 1940, which forced Germany to intervene in 1941. The first senior Greek officer to fall in the Battle of Greece was a Jew named Colonel Mordechai Frizis. While the Greeks mounted the largest resistance ever to German forces in WWII at the Battle of Crete (51 South Africans died in the defence and liberation of Greece in WWII, some of whom were South African Jews), they were eventually forced to surrender to Germany and were subjected to a brutal and dehumanising occupation.

The German occupation ruined Greece's economy and led to a famine, which killed over 300 000 civilians. Ordinary German soldiers then conducted a campaign of indiscriminate mass killings in numerous villages and towns. In the village of Kommeno, 317 unarmed civilians were shot, the youngest a one-year-old girl and the oldest a 75-year-old woman. Not a single German soldier defected during the occupation out of conscience.

A deep sense of humanity

When the Germans began enforcing race laws in 1943, Zakynthos' Mayor Karrer and Bishop Chrysostomos refused to hand over a list of its Jewish community for deportation to the death camps. At one point, they even offered their own names to the Nazis.

All 275 Jews on the island were sent by the bishop to the countryside and were hidden by local Greek citizens. Not a single person in Zakynthos turned in a Jew to the Nazis,



Hellenic Community President Nassos Martalas, Cape Board Chairman Li Boiskin and Cape Town Holocaust Centre Chairman Mervyn Smith.

and it became the only place in Greece that saved its entire Jewish population. "The Greek community of Zakynthos acted with indescribable courage and fortitude and with a deep sense of humanity", said Cape Board Chairman Li Boiskin in her welcome address. By the end of the war, 87% (65 000) of Greece's Jewish population was exterminated by the Nazis.

Sephardi Hebrew Congregation member and historian Isaac Habib, who was born in the Congo to parents from Rhodes, told of how in 1944, the entire Jewish population of Rhodes was sent to Auschwitz, where most perished. Just like that, the 2000-year Jewish presence on the island ended. Today, there are only 25 Jews living in Rhodes, but they are not the descendants of its original Jewish inhabitants.

Following a poem Habib recited in Ladino, which was then read in English by Cape Town Holocaust Director Richard Freedman, the audience viewed the documentary *The Song of Life: The Rescue of the Jews of Zakynthos*, which presented a thorough history of the island's Jewish community and its residents' decision to save their Jewish brethren. The evening concluded with performances by Jewish and Hellenic choirs in Hebrew, Ladino and Greek.

The warmth and camaraderie between the two communities, which share so much common history, was palpable. While this was the first-ever official event co-hosted by Cape Town's Jewish and Greek communities, we hope that there will be much more collaboration between the two in the near future.

To view more photos from the event, visit www.capebod.org.za.

SUCCESS STORIES

Against all odds

Donna Chait was meant to run the New York Marathon, but when it was cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy, she refused to let that spoil her plans and months of preparation — and more than 750 km in training!



All 60 workers at Astra Centre 'ran' with Donna — they created a 'Donna Doll' as her mascot, with the names of each worker written on the doll.

Along with her family and supporters, Donna ran her own race around Central Park. She and trainer Lauren Gillis covered a total of 26.2 miles — the full NY Marathon distance, with 'Team Donna' members doing sections with her. Donna completed her marathon in 7 hours and 17 minutes, and was embraced at the finish by proud parents Howard and Michelle.

Lead role in *Dirty Dancing*

Mila de Biaggi has been cast as one of the lead roles in the international stage production of *Dirty Dancing*.

She plays the role of Penny in the show, which has been produced by Pieter Toerien, Hazel Feldman and Karl Sydow. Seen by millions across the globe, this worldwide sensation tells the classic story; and features hit songs performed by a live band, including *Hungry Eyes*, *Hey Baby*, *Do You Love Me?* and the heart stopping *Time Of My Life*.

Mila recently returned to Cape Town after spending six months in Israel, where she danced with the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company and graduated from their MASA Dance Journey programme.

Since early childhood, Mila has been trained, coached and cast by some of the best local and world-renowned choreographers and directors.

In addition to her performances in Israel, Mila's extensive stage experience includes performing at the Alvin Ailey Citigroup Theatre in New York, the Edinburgh

Fringe Festival, the Salisbury Art Festival in England, the Grahamstown Arts Festival and in local theatre productions.

Mila has also secured numerous corporate engagements and has appeared in print, film and TV commercials for Woolworths, Virgin Active, MTN and Marshalls (USA), amongst others.

She most recently performed in Bovim Ballet's *Queen at the Ballet*, EXpress Dance Company's *La Burlesque* and at Artscape, where she performed her award-winning solo dance featuring her own choreography.

'*Dirty Dancing*' will open in Cape Town at the Artscape in January 2013 before starting an international tour.



Mila de Biaggi. Photo by Justin Munitz.

Technology triumph

Entrepreneur Glenn Stein recently won top awards for his mobile phone application, PhraZApp.

The application ('app') provides translations for popular phrases into English, Afrikaans, Zulu and Tswana, and is available from BlackBerry App World and the Vodacom App Store.

The 23-year-old first developed the app for the Vodacom AppStar competition and was selected as the top app there. Glenn then entered and won the BlackBerry 10JAM Lightning Pitch competition, and went on to win the MTN App of the Year 'Best Garage Developer' award.

Glenn recently came third in the Bandwidth Barn, powered by Telkom, VeloCITY business incubator programme, funded by the Provincial Government of the Western Cape, and accredits his success with what he learned on the course.

"Being an entrepreneur is exhilarating. It's definitely the 'extreme sports' of business," says Glenn. "My advice to anyone thinking of becoming an entrepreneur is to embrace criticism and always improve yourself," says Glenn.

"Love learning, have a positive attitude



Glenn Stein at the MTN 'App of the Year' awards ceremony with his trophy and prize.

and make sure you keep on networking. Being a part of the Barn's programme has given me the tools and confidence to take this thing to the next level."

2013 will see the release of Glenn's PhraZApp 1.2, which will include all 11 official languages as well as a few European languages for tourists.

Reach Glenn on his website: www.phrazapp.co.za or Twitter: @GlennTheStein

Do you have a success story to share? Send your story and a high resolution photo to editor@ctjc.co.za and you could be featured in the Chronicle. Stories must be no more than 200 words.

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Five decades of dedication

Community leader Eliot Osrin recently reached two milestones — five decades of communal involvement, and his 80th birthday.

It is not often that we find people who have worked to better our community for half a century, and therefore a special celebration was held to honour Eliot, his work and his vision. The evening was equally in tribute to Eliot's indomitable wife Myra, who has stood by his side; encouraged his work and in her own right contributed immeasurably to the community.

Philip Krawitz opened the evening with a special tribute to Eliot; followed by a moving and poignant performance by the Herzlia school choir. A timeless rendition of the school song was followed by 'Circle of Life', alluding to Eliot's lifetime commitment to the community and passing his legacy on to the next generation. A Hebrew song concluded the recital, paying tribute to Eliot's love of Israel and the Jewish people. Beautifully arranged by Aviva Pelham and Ivor Joffe, the Herzlia Ensemble showed just a small aspect of the school that Eliot has worked so hard to grow and support.

A 'life story' video of Eliot's work, told by those who have worked with him and know him best; explained the essence of his involvement in the Cape Town Jewish community. It was evident that Eliot is not

only passionate, but also has the ability to pass this drive on to others, which in turn creates a community that will continue to confront its challenges and reach its potential.

In a humorous and moving speech, Eliot paid tribute to those who laid the very foundations of the community: "We need to acknowledge that the foundations were laid many decades ago by immigrants and refugees, establishing a whole network of welfare and educational institutions. These communal giants showed amazing courage, optimism and vision, which is truly inspiring — and enabled following generations to build on to what we have today," he said.

"Whilst I have devoted much time and energy to the community, I need to acknowledge that it gave me enormous personal satisfaction. To the extent that I was successful in making a difference, the secret to my success was that I often bit off more than I could chew, and then I chewed as fast as I could!" he quipped.

"In summing up Myra and my contribution to the community, I don't think I can do better than quote Arnold Schwarzenegger who said 'I guarantee you will discover that, while public service improves the lives and the world around you, its greatest reward is the enrichment and new meaning it will bring to your own life.'"

"While public service improves the lives and the world around you, its greatest reward is the enrichment and new meaning it will bring to your own life."



The Osrin family celebrates Eliot's many milestones.



From past to present, Eliot has always put the community first

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Highlights of Eliot Osrin's five decades of communal involvement

- 1972 – 73: Chairman United Communal Fund
- 1972: Chairman Herzlia's 'Save our Schools' campaign
- 1972: Established Herzlia's Remission Fund (later called The Herzlia Foundation)
- 1972 – 73: Chairman Herzlia Constantia Building committee
- 1947 – 77: Chairman of the Israel United Appeal
- 1980 – 81: Chairman United Herzlia Schools
- 1980 – 82: Chairman Herzlia Middle School Building Campaign
- 1984: Chairman Herzlia Emergency Education Campaign
- 1991: Chairman of Highlands House Emergency Campaign
- 2002 – : Chairman WP Priorities Board
- 2004 – : Chairman UHS Board of Trustees
- 2004 – : Chairman Highlands House Board of Trustees
- 2004 – : Trustee Community Security Organisation
- Trustee of 26 Charitable Foundations



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2012 CAPE BOARD STRATEGY - A Year in Review

It's been over a year since our 2011 *Transform Nation* Conference at which our ground breaking new strategy was voted on and put into place. Since then this strategy has been at the forefront of everything we do. Here is an overview of how we are putting this into action, both internally and externally. We look forward to continuing this work in 2013 with your interest, support and collaboration.

INTERFAITH

Through pro-active building of networks and friendships and by engaging in joint projects, we are breaking down prejudices and creating potential for renewed cooperation and connection among the different faith groups.



We represented the Jewish community at the opening of Western Cape Provincial Parliament. (Pictured: Chairman Li Boiskin, Executive Director David Jacobson, Guru Krishna and Reverend John Oliver)

TRANSFORM NATION

Partnering with political organisations, NGOs and civil society in facilitating conversations and initiatives that actively increase our involvement as agents of positive change in South Africa.



In partnership with the HCI Foundation and Black Management Forum, we launched a pilot Peer Mentorship Programme at UCT for first-year students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The programme was a success and will continue in 2013.



We participated in the "One to One" Day Fair for the intellectually disabled at the Goodhope Centre. We were honoured to receive this year's "Floating Trophy for the Most Attractive Stall", which is the first time a Jewish organisation has ever won this award since its 1999 inception.



We hosted a first-ever Transformation Conversation on Employment Equity, in partnership with the ANC Youth League, Black Management Forum, Cape Chamber of Commerce and DA Youth.

BUILDING NETWORKS

Connecting with local, national and international organisations increases our reach and understanding and facilitates growth through exchange of experiences and ideas.



We engaged with North American visitors from the B'nai B'rith Youth Organisation (BBYO)



We sent professional and lay leadership to international conferences, including the American Jewish Committee Global Forum and AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington DC and the World Jewish Congress, Women in Zionism and Presidential Conferences in Jerusalem.

(Pictured: Chairman Li Boiskin and Executive Director David Jacobson at the World Jewish Congress, in New York)



Together with the Cape Town Holocaust Centre and Hellenic Community, we co-hosted an evening commemorating the Jews of Zakynthos, who were saved by their non-Jewish brethren during World War II.



We met with newly-elected DA Parliamentary Leader Lindiwe Mazibuko

The Cape Board has a **new look** and a **new website**. Visit us at:

MESSAGING
COMMUNITY

By creating open and effective channels for communication, we aim to facilitate an on-going honest & robust conversation with the Jewish community of Cape Town.

The Cape Board's annual conference, entitled "Censor/ tivity: Freedom of Expression & Hate Speech in 21st Century South Africa"



We hosted a General Meeting on the recent breakdown in South African-Israeli relations, entitled "Jerusalem and Pretoria: A relationship under pressure?" (Pictured: Fairplay Cape Town Coordinator Allan Fischer, Vice-chairman Gary Eisenberg & National Chairman SAJBD Mary Kluk)

INTERNAL
PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborating with other Jewish organisations and individuals in order to increase the power and efficacy of our message and to ensure we tackle the most relevant and pressing issues.



We supported the Mini-Nahum Goldmann Fellowship Programme throughout 2012.



We co-hosted a social justice workshop in Mfuleni with other Jewish organisations. It was facilitated by US-based Rabbi Shumly Yanklowitz.

We assisted Group 18 in their blanket drive distributing donated blankets to communities in Khayelitsha.

STRATEGIC
PLANNING

Confronting the issues facing us head on and preparing for tomorrow by encouraging leadership development, Jewish innovation and young adult participation.



We collaborated on the "Make It Happen Initiative" with the US-based Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation. (Pictured: The Cape Board's Gina Flash, Aaron Turest-Swartz and Daniel Pozniak)

We facilitated a meeting between the Schusterman Foundation's Director of Network Initiatives Seth Cohen, and the leadership of the United Jewish Campaign. The discussion focused on growing young Jewish innovation in Cape Town. (Pictured: Marco Van Embden, Li Boiskin and Seth Cohen)



SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION (CAPE COUNCIL)

A view from the Chair

By Ben Levitas — Chairman, SAZF Cape Council

The synchronicity of the release of Salman Rushdie's memoir and the violent protests sweeping across the Muslim world, are a telling harbinger of woe for the freedom of expression.

Rushdie's memoir tells of his more than nine years in hiding after Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's *fatwa* (religious edict), calling for his head in 1989.

Hard-won progress that has yielded noble ideas of human rights and democracy are increasingly being threatened by a rigid interpretation of a faith and way of life that abides no question of its foundational truths. Any one, like Rushdie, who dares to ask slightly uncomfortable questions, needs to be fearful of revenge and of his life.

When Rushdie, declares that he doubts that he would find a publisher for his *Satanic Verses* today, it shows how far down the slippery slope of fear and intolerance, we have gone just in the past nine years. What type of future can our children expect from a world increasingly silenced by intolerant fundamentalists?

The *Innocence of Muslims* film has brought into the limelight the clash between the need to respect religious sensitivities and the right to freedom of expression, and Rushdie's words portend a sinister aspect: "I always said that what happened to me was a prologue and there will be many, many more episodes like it," he said. "Clearly, the film is very poorly

done and is malevolent, but to react to it with this kind of violence is just ludicrously inappropriate. People are being attacked who had nothing to do with it and that is not right."

Eight South Africans were amongst those innocent people who were attacked, because they happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time in Kabul when a suicide bomber targeted Westerners who had nothing to do with the film. We should all be mourning not only the loss of life but also for the loss of freedom of expression, which represents the pinnacle of human endeavour.

Shortly afterward these events, a state-linked Iranian religious foundation increased the bounty on Rushdie's head to US\$3.3 million. In response, author and campaigner Lisa Appignanesi, said "The film that has caused this round of unrest is an insult to everyone's intelligence, but the means of combating that is more intelligence, not threats of reinstated fatwas and killings."

The words of Rabbi Schlomo Lewis of Atlanta in his Rosh Hashanah message warn us of an impending danger posed by Islamist fundamentalism: "We dare not retreat into the banality of our routines, glance at headlines and presume that the 'good guys' will prevail. Democracies don't always win. Tyrannies don't always lose. My friends — the world is on fire and we must awake from our slumber."



Honouring Israel

Continued from page 1

Included in the array of Jewish and Israeli music were numbers by Cantor Barry Braun, the Praise Roots Band, Cantor Ivor Joffe and a heartfelt performance by the Herzlia choir, which was concluded with an emotional tribute to three Holocaust survivors.

On behalf of the SAZF Cape Council, Daniel Levitt expressed gratitude for the support of the Jewish state by the Christian community. Israel's Deputy Ambassador to South Africa, Yaakov Finkelstein, gave a clear and strong message. He highlighted how beyond the anti-Israel sentiment in South Africa, there is a powerful support system for Israel, and he urged people to become more active in expressing this.

Keynote speaker Michael Utterback, Director of Ministry to Israel, gave a clear and unshakable message of support for Israel and the Jewish people. His message, based on Biblical scripture, presented the necessity of support by Christians towards the Jewish State. Reeve Forman gave a message of unity on behalf of the SAZF national committee.

The night concluded with the Israeli and South African anthems sung by the Herzlia choir and a crowded hall filled with the beautiful sight of waving flags.



Sharon Ellwood and Ella Blumenthal.



Sharon Ellwood welcomes the crowd.

Debate at Westerford

The Historical and Current Affairs Society at Westerford High School afforded the SA Zionist Federation (Cape Council) the opportunity to present 'Israel's place in the Middle East'.

The society is currently chaired by Jeremy Phillips. Events such as these give us the opportunity not only to present the Zionist perspective, but also to interact with potential leaders of the future.

These well-attended discussions expose learners to a wide variety of opinions about topical affairs, and judging from the quality of the questions posed, the pupils are very knowledgeable. Accompanying Chairman Ben Levitas and Vice-Chair Daniel Levitt were Shlirim Ido Shapira and Yaniv



Ben, Ido, Daniel and Yaniv with the Westerford students.

Nachmias.

All shared the feeling that this form of interaction with predominantly non-Jewish schools was a vital way of conveying a balanced picture of Israel and countering the growing calls to boycott the country. From the personal interactions that took place, all participants affirmed the importance of doing more such debates at other public schools in the future.

Lunch with Luba

On 10 October the SA Zionist Federation (Cape Council) Media committee hosted Luba Mayekiso.

Luba studied law at Rhodes University and is involved in various business projects; including energy, industrial and food manufacturing works. He is a Christian Zionist and works tirelessly

advocating for Israel.

Luba and his wife Ncedi work with Group 18 on projects to help both Jewish and non-Jewish communities. The luncheon was extremely engaging and Luba and Ncedi emphasised the importance of the work we are doing; and pledged their allegiance to the cause. Luba and Ncedi are certainly great friends to our community!

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Project T.E.N.

The Jewish Agency for Israel's Project T.E.N. (The Tikkun Empowerment Network) is a global effort to harness your good energy, and to make the world a better place.

Hayley Kornblum, from Cape Town, was a recent participant with Project T.E.N. in Ethiopia. These are some of her experiences in her own words:

"Gondar, considered one of Ethiopia's main cities, is more a small town. After spending three months volunteering in this city, I couldn't leave my home without running into somebody I now knew, somewhere in this small city.

"My time in Gondar was spent with sixteen Israelis and two North Americans. We lived together in a big commune, had educational *peulot* a few times a week, and participated in three very different volunteer programmes where we spent our time each day. I worked with an incredible organisation called *Yenege Tesfa*, which creates homes for street children, giving them a place to live with other children and parents, while providing food and an education.

"One of our biggest successes was a 5-week educational summer camp for 53 children in the organisation. The children 'got deep under my skin' and leaving them was definitely the hardest part of leaving Gondar.

"The other volunteer programmes were working with the Jewish community of Gondar that are currently being relocated to Israel. It was a very interesting and often controversial programme that brought hours of debate into our home!

The third programme was working with a Mother Theresa mission in Gondar — a home for people with mental and physical disabilities. The work there transformed the lives of people who really have nothing and very little hope, to happiness that we could envy.

"Gondar taught me many things and I'm truly moved that I got to experience, see and be a part of all that is being done in that small community in North Ethiopia."



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India (Hyderabad), Brazil (Rio de Janeiro), Ethiopia (Gondar) and Israel (Tzfat).

For more information or to apply for Project T.E.N. please contact the Israel Centre on 011 645 2561 or eduproj@israelcentre.co.za or the Israel Centre Cape Town on 021 464 6718 or aliyah@ctjc.co.za



Project T.E.N. in Gondar, Ethiopia.



Project T.E.N. in Hyderabad, India.

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SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION (CAPE COUNCIL)

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At the forefront of technology, healthcare, culture and science, Israel is continuously providing the world with new innovations, ideas and standards in a multitude of spheres. Here are a few recent developments seen first in our Holy Land.

Technology

- Smartype allows you to see what you're typing on a built-in screen, without shifting your eyes from keys to screen. It has apps, too.
- A sophisticated Israeli brain-machine interface may one day help mute people express out loud the words they intend to say.
- When the US Jet Propulsion Lab needed a special cooler for the Curiosity rover, it called a company housed on an Israeli kibbutz.

Business

China sends executives to learn how Israel does business A five-year agreement will bring 1000 Nanjing municipal officials and executives to study Israeli entrepreneurship and innovation.

Social Media

If you can play games, share referrals, recognise friends and purchase gifts through Facebook, it's probably thanks to an Israeli startup.

Innovation

- Israel's Flow Industries makes an 'air gun' for clearing industrial blockages, and it may also provide a better way to extract shale oil.
- An extract from a hardy Holy Land bush forms the basis of a new natural insect repellent being tested in Israeli greenhouses.

Eco-Living

- Nobody believed it would work, but an Israeli cycling enthusiast thought otherwise and invented a fully functional cardboard bicycle. More importantly, blue-and-white technology with a green outlook could cheaply give mobility to thousands of people with disabilities, by creating a wheelchair comprised completely from cardboard.
- A Jerusalem-based company that has unveiled a device to create hydroelectricity inside municipal water pipes.

Entertainment

Tel Aviv-based Funtactix is the only company worldwide creating official video games based on blockbuster movies like *The Hunger Games* and *Mission Impossible* for social media.

Sport

Hero wheelchair tennis player Noam Gershony won Israel's first gold medal in the 2012 London Olympic Games. Inbal Pezaro made a splash at the London 2012 Paralympics, taking the podium in her first two swimming competitions.

Medical

Patients flock to Dr. Ora Golan's beachside clinic hoping to be freed from anxiety, marital woes, ADD and all types of phobias.

Arts and Culture

The cello is Israeli musician's Yoed Nir's ticket to success. His accomplished string-playing is featured on some 450 albums by top artists such as Regina Spektor, Judy Collins and Rufus Wainwright.

Content courtesy of Israel 21c. Visit www.israel21c.org

T.I.M.E.R

(Truth in Middle East Reporting)

On Wednesday 31 October, Truth in Middle East Reporting (TIMER) held an expose on the Cape Times at Camps Bay High School.

The group was formed by Mike Berger, who through careful and methodological research, aimed to expose the bias of the Cape Times against the State of Israel.

This theory can be seen and was clearly proved. The event was a great success and a massive thank you needs to be extended to Mike and his team.

Timer will now be a group that will monitor the press, with the intention of 'keeping tabs' on information and news dealing with Israel and the Middle East. It will combat bias and unjust reporting, with the ultimate goal of establishing an equal and fair press regarding the Middle East in the South African media. Support from the community is welcomed and will be highly appreciated.

To become a friend of Timer, write to Michael Kay: mediawpzc@ctjc.co.za

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Children enjoying the Robotics Club at Herzlia Highlands Primary.

ORT SA Cape runs Robotics Programmes as extra-murals and holiday workshops

Please book early for our next Holiday Workshops at the Iziko South African Museum: 10, 11 and 12 December, 9am until 12pm. We run groups for 6 to 11-year-olds and 12 to 16-year-olds. R450 for 3-day workshop. Includes all materials and snacks.

Our extra-mural programmes are:

Monday at Herzlia Highlands Primary — Grade 2 to 6
 Tuesday at Herzlia Constantia — Grade 2 to 6
 Wednesday and Thursday at Iziko South African Museum — Grade 5 to 9

Please email info@ortsacape.org.za to book or for more information.

Business Induction Workshop

ORT JET Cape Town held the first business induction workshop at the Protea Hotel Sea Point.

The turn-out was positive, with all 20 businesses who attended signing on for the Mentorship Programme.

Please contact brenna@ortjet.org.za should you wish to attend the next one on 29 January.

Brenna Frankel and Lisa Sandler from (ORT JET Cape Town) and Cindy Silberg (ORT JET JHB).



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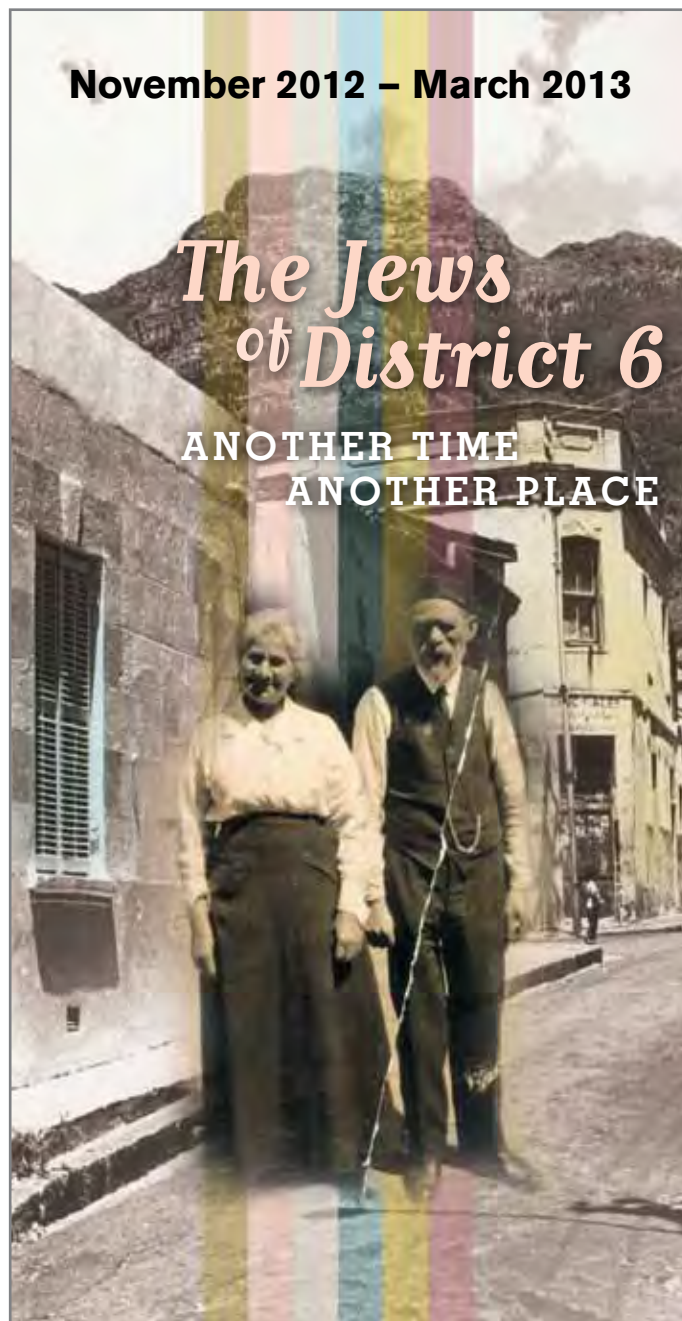
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The power of community

By Rabbi Osher Feldman

Why does Judaism place such a strong emphasis on community?

From praying with a Minyan to our social responsibilities, being part of a community is something that is fundamental to who we are and what we do. Countless discussions and newspaper articles are dedicated to the state of our community, analysing what we're doing right and wrong and how to engage the unaffiliated. *Ethics of the Fathers* (2:5) warns us — 'Do not separate yourself from the community' and indeed throughout Jewish sources there are imperatives to belong to and identify with community. Of course, belonging to a synagogue is also strongly recommended. But why? Why is being part of a community so important? Why can't we all just do our own thing and live out our lives in peace — alone?

Perhaps the following story will help shed some light on the matter: Harry was a shul regular, attending every Friday night and Shabbat morning. However, one winter, Harry stopped coming to shul. His rabbi enquired after him and was told that he was fine, but the rabbi decided to pay Harry a visit. He went to his house and found him sitting comfortably by the fireplace. Without saying a word, the rabbi walked over to the fireplace, took a pair of tongs, picked up a hot, glowing coal and placed it gently in a corner of the fireplace.

Keeping the fire burning

While the rest of the fire continued to burn brightly, the isolated coal grew whiter and whiter until eventually it extinguished itself. It became cold and dead. Still without saying a word, the rabbi got up, nodded good night to his congregant and went home. The next week Harry was back in shul. He got the message: a coal that is isolated from the fire easily burns out.

Being part of a community keeps the fire inside of us burning. There's a unique energy and power that can only be created when people come together. Think of the difference between watching a rugby match alone at home versus at a packed Newlands stadium. There's an atmosphere at the ground that can't be felt when you're sitting by yourself at home.

One of my congregants once pointed out to me that the first letter of the word illness is 'i' and the first two letters of the word wellbeing is 'we'. One of the key ingredients to our emotional, psychological and spiritual wellbeing is being part of the 'we'.

We are now celebrating Channukah — the festival of lights. As we light the candles, let us remember the power of community and reignite the flame — the coal — burning within our hearts. Because a coal that is part of the collective will always burn brightly, bringing warmth and light to all its surroundings.



Top speakers at Claremont Wynberg

The Claremont Wynberg shul under their adult education banner CWest (Claremont Wynberg Education for Spirituality and Torah) hosted two speakers recently.

The first was Rabbi Francis Nataf; a noted thinker, orator and author from Jerusalem. Rabbi Nataf, whose family hails from North Africa, addressed a wide array of topics and challenged his audience to consider how Halacha has 'kept the Jewish people' far more that they have kept it. He also discussed Abraham's ten trials and explained that they were a series of ascending challenges where each one was built on the former.

The second speaker was Professor Barry Schoub of Johannesburg. Prof. Schoub is a world-renowned expert in the field of virology and communicable diseases and recently received an award from President Zuma for his outstanding work, especially in the field of AIDS research. Prof. Schoub is also an observant Jew who studies Talmud daily and keeps Shabbat. He fascinated the audience with the topic 'Is it possible to be a Torah-observant scientist?'

CWest, which was launched at the beginning of 2012, has hosted many outstanding speakers. These include



Rabbi Francis Nataf of Jerusalem.

Lori Palatnick, Drs Jeremy and Erica Brown, Rabbi Benzion Schafier, Rabbi YY Jacobson, Prof. William Kolbrener and Rabbi Dr Shlomo Riskin. For more information and to sponsor an event, contact info@clarewvynshul.co.za



Prof Barry Schoub — Orthodox scientist.

To talk or not to talk?

By Rabbi Matthew Liebenberg

With the wedding season upon us; many grooms, brides and best men are working feverishly on their speeches.

These addresses have become a point of debate in the last few decades. For most South Africans this is a relatively 'open and shut' issue — speeches are basically mandatory. A wedding reception without a one would be missing *ta'am*.

But in Israel, America and England, the trend is to have no speeches at all, and in some instances when the groom gets up to speak, he is 'sung down' and forced to abort his plans! The pro-speaking lobby enjoys some very strong rabbinic support, most notably from a passage in the Talmud: "What do we say when we dance before the bride? Beit Shammai says: We praise her as she is; Beit Hillel says: We say she is beautiful and virtuous."

From this passage it seems clear that it was always customary to speak at the wedding, or at the very least to praise the bride. Furthermore, our sages require words of Torah to be spoken at any meal, and certainly one that qualifies as a *Seudat Mitzvah* (a banquet celebrating the performance of a mitzvah such as a bris or a wedding). To this end they warned: "Three people who ate together and did not recite words of Torah it is as if they have eaten from the tables of idolatry, but if three people ate together and recited words of Torah it is considered as if they ate from G-d's table!"

Maintaining modesty

What reasons do the 'non-talking' lobby put forward? Perhaps they base their viewpoint on another, rather indicting

passage of the Talmud: "Rabbi Chanan, the son of Rav said: Everyone knows why the bride is going to the chuppah [to permit intimate relations with her husband], but whoever profanes his speech and talks about it, even if a good decree has been set aside for that person for 70 years from Heaven, it will be overturned to evil!"

The Sages are teaching that just because we may be aware of certain facts, this does not give us the right to speak about them, especially if they are of a private and intimate nature. Unfortunately many wedding speeches, and especially the notorious best man's speech, have deteriorated into crass and humiliating addresses. Perhaps the 'non-speaking' lobby feels that rather than make a bad speech, no speech should be made at all. If the purpose of a speech is to uplift the event, then the average best man's speech plunges it into new levels of depravity. I once officiated at a wedding where the best man made several references to the groom's previous (failed) marriage, saying that "I hope this is the last time I have to fly out to be at one of your weddings."

It has also become common to humiliate the couple by making explicit references to their private life. Publicising a couple's intimate relationship is anathema to Judaism. Indeed, the Talmud rules that a Torah sage may be loose with the truth when he is asked "Were you intimate with your wife?" He can say 'no' in order to promote modesty. Intimacy must remain intimate; it is not part of the public domain.

Although I would not suggest a ban on wedding speeches, I believe the best man's speech needs a major overhaul!

IN AND AROUND CAPE TOWN ...



Chabad of the West Coast held a 'Loaves of Love' event in honour of a mother in our community.



Rabbi Feldman with Raymond Ackerman, special guest at the Friday Night Live 5th Anniversary at the Gardens Shul (photo taken before Shabbat).



BMC ceremony. Front: Jade Spiro, Jenavieve Utian, Maddie Wingerin, Talia Scher, Olivia Sandak-Lewin, Ariel Kawitzky, Kayla Dibowitz and Jordi Rubenstein. Middle: Skye Zive, Dalya Blecher, Alexa Jackson, Zoe Glanz, Rachel Musikanth, Anna Valkin and Jenna Isserow. Back: Cassidy Fanaroff, Rebbetzin Sara Wineberg, Jamie Uria and Leah Wineberg.

Eighteen girls celebrated their Batmitzvahs at Marais Road Shul on 7 October. The ceremony was attended by 600 people and was a culmination of the popular Batmitzvah Club's annual course run by Rebbetzin Sara Wineberg. The course strives to instil Jewish practice, values and pride into our future Jewish leaders.



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BNOTH ZION ASSOCIATION WIZO

World WIZO Bible Day Rebecca Sieff Awards

Bnoth Zion WIZO celebrated the commitment and dedication of our members at the World WIZO Bible Day, where Rebecca Sieff Awards were bestowed on members who have given life-long service to the organisation.

President of World WIZO, Tova Ben Dov was the guest of honour and keynote speaker. She spoke with great passion about the work that WIZO does to uplift Israeli society. She discussed the particular projects that are supported by WIZO South Africa and spoke of the critical importance of Neve WIZO. This is a foster home scheme that allows children who have been removed from their natural parents by court order to be cared for by foster parents; whose nurturing embrace allows them to grow up in normal-functioning families.

Tova also described the incredible achievements made by the teenagers who attend Ichpat, the Municipal Career School that allows youngsters who have dropped out of school and are in danger

of becoming criminal outcasts to attain career skills, thereby giving them the opportunity to find a place for themselves in mainstream society.

WIZO has also enabled daycare facilities attached to hospitals to operate in times of crisis and emergency, on a 24-hour basis. This gives their parents (the doctors and nurses working at the hospital) the comfort of knowing that their children are cared for by well-trained and caring staff.

The building of a rocket-proof nursery school in Sderot has been acknowledged as a major achievement, and there are plans to convert all WIZO's daycare units in the south of the country into rocket-proof facilities.

Tova's positive energy engaged the audience and allowed everyone who was present to feel the same enthusiasm and pride in the wonderful and very important work done by WIZO — so vital in maintaining and improving the quality of life of Israel's women and children.

Grateful thanks to our sponsor, the George Elkin Charity Trust.



Tova with Gill Raphael, Ncedi Mayekiso, Suzanne Luck and Claudia Codron.



Estelle Yach and her daughter Diana were delighted to entertain Tova.



Tamar Lazarus, BZA WIZO Chairman Tessa Scher, Past Chairman Eta Scher, Tova Ben Dov, recipient Sheila Wagenheim and Gesher member Yda Tollman.



The Patrons enjoyed meeting Tova at a lunch hosted by her daughter Tamar Lazarus.



Recipients Michelle Miller, Ruth Stander, Ellen Sternberg, Sheila Wagenheim, Rosa Ryan, Diana Levitan and Marcia Samakosky with Tova Ben Dov and Tamar Lazarus.

An evening with 'Bubbles'



Rahla Xenopoulos speaking at the BZA WIZO launch of her book 'Bubbles'.



Ellen Raubenheimer with function convenors Felicity Isserow and Suzanne Luck.

On a beautiful Cape Town evening, Bnoth Zion Wizo launched the new book *Bubbles* by Rahla Xenopoulos.

This sophisticated affair took place at the chic Grand Café & Beach.

The gorgeous 'lady in red', author Rahla, was introduced by the dynamic Irma Kessler, who thanked the sponsors and outlined the projects that would benefit from this function.

Rahla spoke of her research and her connection with Bubbles Schroeder. Rahla felt that her book could give Bubbles the 'voice' that she never had when she was alive.

Through Rahla's generosity, as well as the generous sponsorship received from Dis-Chem, Bnoth Zion Wizo has been able to raise funds for our 'Sponsor a Child' project in Israel.

We thank all concerned for their selfless commitment to our cause.

Grateful thanks and appreciation to our sponsors and donors

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The proceeds of this event will go to: Wizo 'Sponsor A Child' Fund and Rape Crisis Cape Town.



Get your 2013 Bnoth Zion WIZO diary now! All information, important dates, holidays and more at your fingertips — what every Jewish woman needs!



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Jeanette and Richard Loring, Premier Helen Zille and Prof. Johan Maree.



Premier Helen Zille and Mpumi Sizane.



Back: Pierre van Tonder, Marco van Embden, Peta and Ryan Broomberg, Silvana and Alan Silverman and Jane van Tonder. Front: Zela and Gene Stern, Darron and Liz Swersky.



Eliot Osrin and Mpumi Sizani



Back: Dennis and Bernice Kaye, Denise and Larry Sive, Leaza Cowan and Lawrence Abrahamson. Front: Shirley and Jeff Fabian and Karen Abrahamson.



Staff of UJW: Shirley Thompson, Desray Conne, Hermoine Sternberg, Georgina Solomon, Rika van der Merwe and Wendy Claasen (Kensington Creche).



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Family Announcements

THANK YOU

FRANK VISSER

I wish to thank Jenny, Diane, Fay and Ezra and their families for all their support over the past 17 years when I helped their parents, the late Mr and Mrs Natie and Freda Altschuler, and their uncle and aunt, the late Mr and Mrs Eze and Bessie Levin, all of whom were very kind to me and my children.

THANK YOU — 90TH BIRTHDAY

BUBBLES HARRIS

I wish to thank family and friends for their good wishes and gifts on the occasion on my 90th birthday.

CONDOLENCES — THANK YOU

MICHELLE BLUMENTHAL

We wish to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to our family and friends for their support, love and expressions of sympathy on the passing of our beloved Michelle.

We shall cherish the wonderful memories of her forever.

Arthur Blumenthal, Karen and Adam Scher, Stephen, Natasha, George and James Blumenthal.

CARLA-JANE GLUCKMAN

The Resnekov / Franco families wish to thank the community of Cape Town for their outpouring of sympathy, caring and support on the passing of our darling Carla-Jane.

We will uphold and cherish her memory.

Peter, Charlotte, Anton, Nerine, Bianca, Steven, India, Kitty, Ruben, Micha, Jake, Max and Sinovuyo.

To place a family announcement phone Tessa 021 464-6736 (am)

NAN MARCUS GOLDBERG

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to family and friends for the condolences and support on the passing of our beloved mother, Nan. Your support has been a great source of comfort to us.

Special thanks to the devoted staff of Highlands House for their care.

Forever remembered by Lynne, Alan, Howard and their families.

MIRIAM MICHAELS

Our sincere thanks to all our family, friends and Rabbi Matthew and Lee Liebenberg for all their support, letters and phone calls.

The tributes paid to Miriam are a great comfort and we are overwhelmed by the love and fond memories shared with us at this sad time.

Eric, Julian, Brian, Shelley and their families.

WOOLFIE GRODSINSKY

We extend our deepest gratitude to all family, friends, congregants and representatives of communal organisations for the many messages of condolence and support, as well as the tasty food, on the recent passing of our beloved father, father-in-law and zeida, Woolfie Grodsinsky.

Rabbi Matthew, Lee, Chani Merryl and Naomi Liebenberg

JUNE SAPERSON

Sincere thanks to our family, friends, Rabbi Dovid Wineberg, Norman Isaacson and the Marais Road Shul congregation, Rabbi Kalman and Nicole Green and the Constantia Shul Congregation, for the overwhelming support, generosity and love shown to us during our bereavement.

David and Gavin Saperson, Avril Chapman and families.

CONDOLENCES — THANK YOU

BERYL LIPSCHITZ

Our sincere thanks to family, friends, and organisations for their great kindness, messages of sympathy and condolences on the loss of our beloved wife, mother and grandmother.

We sincerely appreciate, and have been greatly comforted, by your tremendous support during our bereavement.

She will be deeply missed by us.

Kenny Lipschitz
Wayne, Jacqui, Gabi and
Matt Lipschitz
Ruth, Ashley, Gina and Claudia
Mendelowitz

DAVID SERWATOR

We thank Rabbis and Rebbetzins Liebenberg and Hecht and the Ladies' Guild of the Claremont Wynberg Hebrew Congregation, family and friends for your valued expressions of sympathy on the passing of our much loved principled, industrious, wise and caring brother and uncle, in September.

May G-d abundantly bless you all in Port Elizabeth, where David and his family had lived since 1959. Thousands will remember his contribution to their lives through photography.

Alec and Rabbi Stuart Serwator.

MELINDA SHAPIRO

We wish to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all our family and friends, Rabbi Maizels and Rabbi Feldman and Jewish organisations for their sympathy, support and outpouring of love on the passing of our beloved wife and mother.

Melinda was a very special woman and we have been truly humbled by all the warmth and support shown to us during this sad time — a testament to how much she was loved and respected by all who knew her.

We shall cherish our wonderful memories of her forever.

Philip, Simon and Lisa, Robert, Beth and Harry and families.

MICHELLE SOLOMON

The loss of our daughter, sister, and aunt brings indescribable pain and sadness into our lives.

At this time we found great comfort from all the visits, messages, phone calls and wishes of sympathy from so many family, friends and organisations here and around the world.

It helped lift our spirits to know how much Michelle was loved and respected by all who knew her and how much joy she had brought not only to us, but also to so many people.

We would like you to know that we will be eternally grateful to all of you.

Leonard, Elaine, Janine, Wayne and families.

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MATTHEW PAMM (4-11-1979)

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Glendale activities now on you-tube: [www.youtube.com
search Glendale Cape Town.](http://www.youtube.com/search/Glendale+Cape+Town)



Beit Emanuel Progressive Synagogue Community Rabbi

Beit Emanuel, a Progressive Synagogue in the historic suburb of Parktown, Johannesburg (South Africa) is seeking a full-time rabbi with immediate effect.

Beit Emanuel has historically been the largest or 'flagship' Progressive congregation in Johannesburg and South Africa, and the successful applicant will work with lay leadership to reinvigorate congregational life and grow membership.

Beit Emanuel has just under 400 member family units, with varying ages, income and levels of observance. Services are offered for Shabbat and all festivals, and the community is attempting to grow its Religion School, youth and young adult demographic and activities.

The ideal candidate will combine warmth and learning, and will have a demonstrated ability to build and grow a community, as well as the skills and abilities usually expected of a solo or senior rabbi for a Progressive community.

Due to the imminent deadline, interim appointments will be welcomed, and in this regard, applications are invited from senior students, rabbis on sabbatical or those recently retired.

The remuneration package will be market-related and negotiable to the right candidate.

For more information or to submit your CV in strict confidence, please e-mail chairman@beitemanuel.co.za.



To all the matrics of 2012: We hope your final exams went well!

Please remember us next year when you are looking for part-time jobs such as au pairing & tutoring.

Good luck with your studies for 2013!

Contact Linda or Coty on: Tel: 021 - 464-6700

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Cape Town Progressive Jewish Congregation

Consider This

Besides being a festival of lights that marks the winter solstice in the northern hemisphere and a celebration of the victory of the Maccabees, Chanukkah deals with the profound issue of identity.

According to the First and Second Books of Maccabees, Chanukkah is a celebration of the re-dedication of the Temple after the triumph of the Jewish guerrilla army against the Seleucid forces sent by Antiochus IV Epiphanes to oppress the Jews. After ascending the throne of the Seleucid Empire in 175 BCE, Antiochus plundered the *Beit Mikdash*, massacring the Jews and banning Judaism. In 167 BCE he dedicated the Temple to Zeus, inspiring the Jewish rebellion.

Scholars argue that Antiochus may have been interfering in a civil war between the Hellenised Jewish elite of Jerusalem and the more traditionalist Jews of the countryside who were embroiled in a violent contest over who would be anointed as High Priest. Traditionalists with Hebrew/Aramaic names like Onias were overthrown by Hellenisers with Greek names like Jason and Menelaus. The latter were willing to adapt Jewish worship to accommodate the beliefs and practices of the Seleucid rulers of Judea. As the conflict escalated, Antiochus took the side of the Hellenisers. This would explain his oppression of Judaism, which was contrary to his policy

elsewhere in his empire.

Thus the Maccabean revolt, the successful conclusion of which led to the celebration of Chanukkah, was the result of a dilemma faced by many nations and individuals — how to cope with a changing world and still retain one's identity. The Jews in Judea had to deal with the emerging Greek culture brought by Alexander the Great and they did so in two ways. The wealthier urbanised classes adopted Greek names, dress and mannerisms while the poorer rural Jews sought refuge from Hellenism by stricter adherence to the traditions of their ancestors.

It is fitting that we read the story of Joseph as the *parashah* for the Shabbat leading up to Chanukkah as well as the Shabbat of Chanukkah. When Pharaoh elevated Joseph to the position of Viceroy over Egypt, he dressed him in the garb of an Egyptian nobleman; decreed that he be known by the name *Zaphenath-Paneah* and gave him Osenath, the daughter of an Egyptian priest as a wife. Joseph became so outwardly assimilated that even his brothers did not recognise him until he revealed his true identity: *Ani Yosef, Ha-od Avi Chai?*, "I am Joseph, does my father still live?" (Genesis 45:3). Indeed Jacob did not recognise Joseph's sons, Manasseh and Ephraim when Joseph brought them to their grandfather's death bed for a blessing because they were dressed in the attire of

Egypt.

Enriching the Jewish experience

Yet despite outward appearances, Joseph was still very much a Hebrew, worshipping the God of his ancestors and conducting himself according to the life-affirming principles of his tradition, so much so that he is known in rabbinic literature as *Yosef ha-Tzadik*, 'Joseph the Righteous'. On his death bed, knowing that as an Egyptian nobleman he would receive an Egyptian funeral, he requested that his brothers make it known that he wished to be buried in the Land of Israel. In fulfilment of his request Moses himself carried Joseph's bones out of Egypt and they were buried at Shechem after the Israelites' conquest of Canaan. Joseph's request that he be buried in the land promised by God to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is indicative of his strong sense of identity and his loyalty to God.

While the Hellenised Jews of the Chanukkah story were unable to retain the integrity of Torah tradition, becoming corrupted by the foreign culture which they adopted and allowing the Temple to be desecrated, the example of Joseph demonstrates the ability to adopt positive aspects of the dominant culture while still remaining true to the values, ideals and

traditions of Torah.

Jews have faced the challenges of an ever-changing world for millennia and our ability to adapt and change has enabled us to survive as a people, a culture and a faith community. We have been able to absorb the positive features of the dominant culture in which we have found ourselves while retaining the life-affirming values, principles and rituals of Judaism. This has not only ensured our survival, but has also enriched the Jewish experience, providing different traditions between, and within, Ashkenazi, Sephardi, Mizrahi and Yemenite Jews.

The 21st century brings its own challenges to being Jewish and the same two choices face us as individuals and communities. Do we shy away from modernity and seek refuge exclusively in our past traditions and way of life, shunning all technology and outside sources of information; or do we embrace the world, absorbing the positive contributions of our age while filtering out its negative aspects? This is the question we need to ask ourselves as we read the saga of Joseph and light our *chanukkiyot*.

I wish you a blessed and enlightening Chanukkah. Chag Chanukkah Sameach.



By Rabbi Malcolm Matitiani

In tribute to Simon Jocum z"l

The Cape Town Progressive Jewish Congregation notes with sorrow the passing of Simon Jocum.

Simon was an Elder of our congregation, having been a Trustee and President. He was also the founder and a Trustee of the Rabbi David and Bertha Sherman Foundation.

Simon was a great follower of Rabbi Sherman, and their families shared a close friendship over many years.

He loved and became an integral part of the Progressive Jewish Community in South Africa and world-wide, having served in numerous leadership positions on the South African Union for Progressive Judaism as President and Chairman, as well as on the Executive of the World Union.

Simon also served the wider Jewish community in various communal leadership positions, notably as President of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies (Cape Council), where he became an Honorary Life Vice-President. Simon also became a National Vice-Chairman of the Board and a member of its National Affairs Committee.



Rebbetzin Bertha Sherman and Simon, two great friends at shul together.

In business, Simon played a leading role in the clothing industry as a President of the National Clothing Federation of South Africa and Chairman of the Cape Clothing Manufacturers' Association.

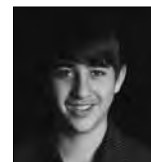
Simon was very passionate about his work and was most committed to the causes he served.

Our congregation wishes to express its deepest sympathy to his wife Pola and their daughters Renata and Nadine and all his family.

May the memory of this righteous person remain a perpetual blessing.

Zecher Tsaddik Livracha.

B'Sha'ot Tovot ...



Edan Toledo
Barmitzvah
1 December



Jarred Fisher
Barmitzvah
8 December



Isabella Terespolsky
Batmitzvah
22 December

Temple Israel would like to wish all our congregants Chanukkah Sameach and a wonderful and safe holiday period. We look forward to seeing you all at the wonderful array of events and services we have planned for 2013.

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Get a great start time, do a mitzvah and have a fantastic day out with Temple Israel and Afrika Tikkun. Join us for a ride for tzedakah to raise money for the shul and the great projects of Afrika Tikkun.

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For more info (and how to register) go to:
<http://afrikatikun-events.org/cape-argus-pick-n-pay-cycle-tour-2013>.

Please confirm your participation to Eric Beswick at:
executive-director@templeisrael.co.za.

once you have registered.
WHEN: 10 March 2013

Temple Israel

Twilight supper in Milnerton

Each month, CJSA Milnerton hosts a 'twilight supper' with a special guest speaker.

The Milnerton branch of CJSA is unique as they are the only branch that has their own committee who organise their events.

They also have their own special catering committee and their food is always beautifully-prepared and absolutely delicious.

The evenings are always over-subscribed and there is a waiting list of those eager to attend. This month's guest speaker was Dr Azila Reisenberger, whose presentation provided much laughter and

entertainment.

We appreciate all our volunteers who give of their time so generously so that our members are able to enjoy themselves at our events. We know that members so look forward to interacting with guests when they visit our centres.



Freda Levine, Barbara Newman, Lucy Woolf and Ettie Yamey — caterers at the twilight supper.



Social worker Melanie with Tzili.



Lily Ageyev, Shirley Mann and Ruth Stander enjoying the twilight supper.

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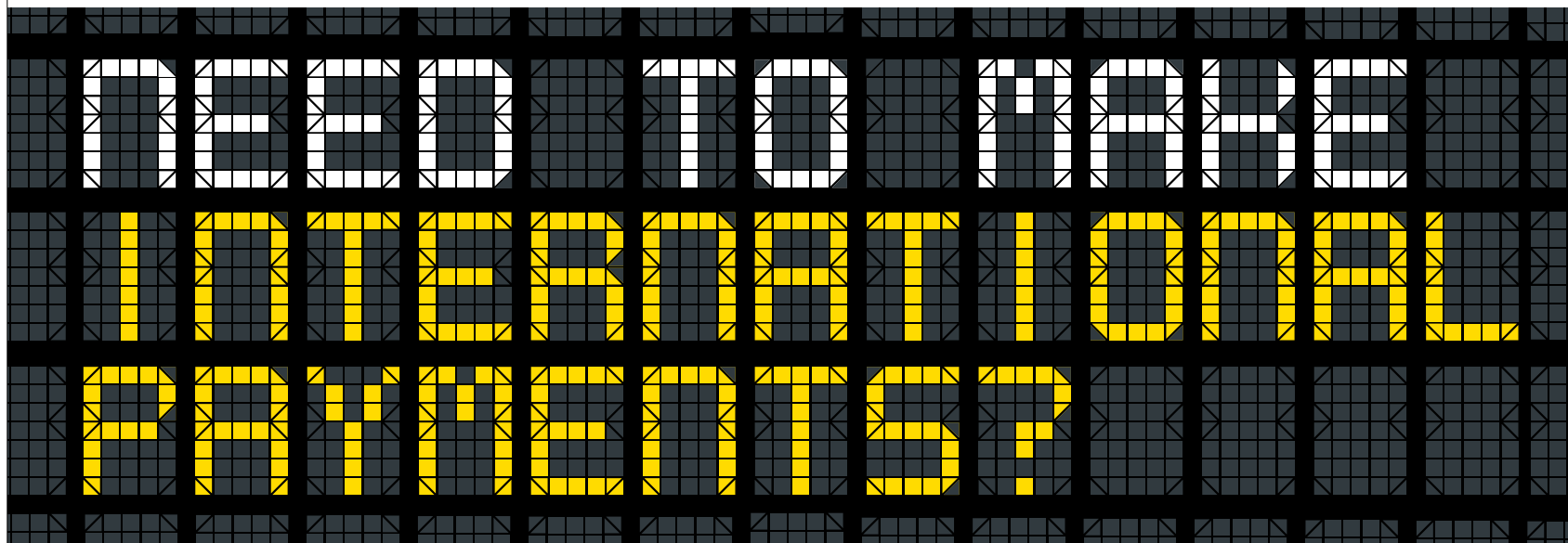
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Healing a community from within

It takes one small step to make a difference, and when Bea Heymann visited the West Coast community of Mamre, she began a journey of upliftment and activism that has had a powerful impact on the place and its people.

"When I first went to Mamre, I realised that the little town incorporated nearly everything that I was interested in and passionate about, from its Cape Dutch vernacular architecture to its fascinating history, as well as the stunning West Coast spring flowers, the unusual West Coast traditional foods, and the culture and lifestyle of this rural Moravian Mission community," says Bea. "It may be close to Cape Town, but it was so very different in every way from my own background, history and culture."

"At that time Mamre was very run down, dilapidated and neglected, and the people were obviously poor, yet the potential for change and revitalisation seemed so clear," she explains. "I decided to try do whatever I could to help bring prosperity to Mamre, and to help restore the people's pride in their town, their heritage and their culture. Although it did seem an overwhelmingly large task, I reminded myself of the words of Henry Ford: 'Whether you believe you can do a thing or not, you are right.'"

From nature gardens to newspapers

The first project Bea embarked on was a Spring Festival with a landscaped flower show, which has grown each year, and this year celebrated its 10th anniversary. Next was the establishment of a community organic vegetable garden, which is now thriving. It supplies the soup kitchen for the needy and the community, and will eventually supply Mamre's restaurant and farmstall with fresh vegetables. Its location was carefully chosen, and it is positioned where it had been 200 years ago.

Other projects include the collection of oral histories, especially from the oldest people in Mamre; establishing hiking and bicycle routes; creating a recycling depot; clearing alien invasive vegetation; upgrading and managing a Nature Garden; unblocking Mamre's rivers; training local youth in newspaper production; creating a local newspaper and many more initiatives.

Projects are chosen to benefit and uplift the community either directly or through the creation of job opportunities and skills training; and with the aim of attracting visitors to Mamre, as tourism will help the projects to be sustainable.

It soon became clear that a properly-structured organisation was needed to handle all this, so the Mamre Community Development Trust was created, with Bea as CEO. The Trust comprises only three trustees from outside Mamre, with the other five selected from the community. The Trust is a PBO with coveted Section 18A status, enabling donors to deduct any



Picnic spots and stunning surroundings.
Photo: Bruce Sutherland (City Council).



The old 'winkel', which will become a restaurant.
Photo: Bea Heymann



The Mamre Flower Show.
Photo: Bruce Sutherland (City Council).

donation from their income tax, which is a good incentive.

All this has been a long road to travel, with many challenges along the way. What has motivated Bea as she carries out this work day by day? "I think the prospect of being instrumental in making a difference to the lives of an entire community is my main motivation," she says. "Another motivating factor is the restoration and reviving of the historical buildings on the 'werf', which if not constantly maintained will disappear and be lost forever, taking with them an important part of South Africa's history."

"The rescue, protection and conservation of the environment are yet another motivation. I think that these issues are too important and exciting to abandon, tempted though I am from time to time when the going gets difficult!"

A new tourism destination

Capetonians love trips up the West Coast, and Bea recommends visiting Mamre on your next break: "Mamre will have all the attributes of a first class tourism destination, and is a designated Provincial Heritage site (formerly called a National Monument). It is very beautiful, with ancient oak trees shading the old Cape Dutch buildings, and has two rivers running through it."

"It is only a 45 minutes drive from Cape Town, so is very conveniently situated for Sunday lunch or weekend visit. There are many other attractions in the area, such as the Fossil Park; !kwattu, — the San cultural centre; an ostrich park; the West Coast National Park and more. At Mamre there is an old water mill (which will be

Community Chest Award winner

Community Chest of the Western Cape celebrated its 84th Annual General Meeting at the Baxter on 19 October, during which they acknowledged outstanding philanthropic work by young people.

Herzlia High School matric learner Miranda Kantor received the Community Chest Youth Award for her leadership of the Herzlia Interact Society. The award included R1000 for her to donate to any charity.



Prof. Brian O'Connell (Chairman of the Community Chest of Western Cape), Miranda Kantor (Herzlia High School) and Amelia Jones (Chief Executive Officer of the Western Cape).

Where are they now?

Members of the Cape Town Jewish community have been dispersed across the world, succeeding in numerous fields in various countries.

In an effort to reconnect them to the community, and to track their many 'success stories', we have asked these expats to tell us about their lives, families and achievements. Each month, we will feature a different interview.

Name:

Avi and Bev Shenker

Where are you living, and why have you chosen to live there?

We arrived in England in February 1978. Our original plan was to buy a camper van and tour Europe, which we did for approximately three months, getting as far as Turkey and north to Germany and Holland. We sort of just stayed and made England our home. I had a British passport due to my father being born in Leeds, and Bev qualified by being married to me.

As all ex-South Africans, we started off in London but within the year we moved to the East Midlands and then to South Staffordshire. Since 1981 we have been living in Lichfield, which is approximately 20 miles north-east of Birmingham. It is a small market town dating back to the 4th century and yes, like yourselves we had never heard of it before we moved here! It is a small town, safe, good state education and health care with lovely countryside on our doorstep. The only downsides are that Birmingham is a small Jewish community and we are in the middle of England, so a long way from the beach.

What do you do, and why are you passionate about your work?

I have been self-employed since 1981 with my own accountancy practice, dealing with owner-managed businesses.

To take part in 'Where are they now?' please email the Chronicle at editor@ctjc.co.za to ask for a questionnaire.



Bev and Avi Shenker with their son Laurence at his graduation.

Tell us about your family:

We have two children, Simon who is 31, married with two children living in Jerusalem; and Laurence who is 23, who had just graduated with a degree in Sport Coaching Science and Physical Education.

What are some of your achievements?

I would say our achievements are making a go of living in England and our two fantastic children, grandchildren and a successful business. On a lighter side I won two rally championships in 2001 — motorsport not really being a Jewish-supported sport!

What would you like to say to the Cape Town Jewish community?

Don't discount the UK, it really is not a bad place to live. The NHS is really very good, but look beyond London. The midlands and the north have a lot to offer. Just do not move here for the weather, it is always terrible! After 34 years we still cannot get used to the weather.

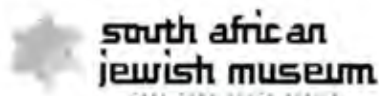
restored to working order) a *bakhuise* (where bread will once again be baked in the old-fashioned way), and there will be a first class country style restaurant, a guest house, a small conference centre (in the original old school where the Missionaries taught the Khoi) and there could be a series of shops in the *langhuis*, (formerly a barracks for D.E.I.C. soldiers) such as a bakery, a book shop, a gift shop, a craft shop, a farmstall and a deli.

Meanwhile, it is easy for you to get involved. "If there are any Cape Jewish Chronicle readers who would like to assist with one of the projects, I would be so glad to hear from them. If there is someone skilled in writing a Business Plan that

would be especially welcome. We have already started a 'Friends of Mamre' group that readers might also like to join. There is no cost for joining, as this is a support group which will be kept in touch with what is happening at Mamre. Members will also benefit from special offers when the tourism project is up and running."

In conclusion, Bea quotes Robert F. Kennedy, who said, "There are those who look at things and ask why... I dream of things that never were, and ask why not?" Come and help to make the dream a reality at Mamre."

Contact Bea on beabarry@iafrica.com or 021 433-2221.



Jews of District Six exhibition opens

After much anticipation, *The Jews of District Six: Another Time, Another Place* exhibition opened at the South African Jewish Museum on 11 November.

The exhibition was sponsored by the Kaplan-Kushlick Foundation. The opening address was delivered by Rhoda Kadalie.

The exhibition offers a first-hand account of the early years of the Cape Town Jewish community; and how in this neighbourhood, the community took root in the city. Its legacy remains to this day.

This unique exhibition is sure to bring back fond memories that will take you back to another time and another place.

The exhibition will be on show at the SAJM until early March 2013. See page 18 for more details.



Memories of District Six.



Museum Director Gavin Morris addressing the crowd.



Guests enjoying the exhibition.



Prof. Milton Shain (exhibition convenor), Robert Kaplan (SAJM Chairman), Millie Pimstone (exhibition curator), Adrienne Folb (picture researcher) and Gavin Morris (SAJM Director).



Angela Tuck (exhibition designer), Millie Pimstone, Rhoda Kadalie and Prof. Milton Shain.



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HOW ALIVE ARE YOU?



JAGUAR CAPE TOWN

Hertzog Boulevard, Cape Town
Tel: 021 413 9800



YAD's 11th annual Corporate Charity Golf Day 2012 teed off on Thursday 1 November.

The weatherman took heed of us and delivered the day extra hot and sunny, with a touch of colour. The vibrant Stenham-branded golf kit celebrated the arrival of summer; while Origin coffee and some delicious muffins welcomed all and set the tone for a lovely day.

Refreshment stations were plentiful and there was a variety of new beverages to sample thanks to generous sponsors; while the King David course provided the perfect setting. Great comedy by Kurt Schoonraad provided lots of laughs; and a decadent buffet completed the day — with gratitude to key sponsor Macsteel and Merle Rubin.

The prizes were generous to a fault and all YAD golfers went home with a gift. The event was won by the Fourball Stenham 1 team with a score of 92 — mazal tov! The full YAD Golf Day scores are posted on our Facebook page.

YAD is so very grateful to all hole sponsors and those who donated the prizes, products and services. The day is only as successful as the contributions made by those who support the event — including the golfers themselves. To Chronicle readers: Do support those who so generously gave towards our event, and who are listed on these pages.

There are many more photos of the Golf Day by both Stu Shapiro and Andrew Emdon, which are posted on YAD's Facebook page — Facebook.com/yadcapetown. Please tag away, and please 'like' our photos!

YAD scores a hole in one at Golf Day!



AML four ball: Alan Locketz, Larry Gershowitz, Alan Alperstein and Anthony Healy



Cohesive Capital four ball: Jeff Closenber, Hilton Datnow, Arnie Witkin and Craig Fell



Foschini four ball: Gerry Brand, Ian McClelland, Vernon Kearsey and Angus Wiley.



Investec 2 four ball: Trevor Morris, Charles Gallow, Andrew Morris and Tom Scott.



Comedian Kurt Schoonraad



PKF four ball: Bradley Jackson, Anthony Jackson, Marc Blachowitz and Adam Closenber.



MGI Bass Gordon Portfolio Bureau's hole.



Murcia four ball: Jarrod Murcia, Jonathan Kantey, Brian Ginsberg and Ross Sheldon



Origin coffee



Macsteel 1 four ball: Daniel Levitt, Steven Cohen, David Valentini and Darren Rabin



Mazor Four Ball: Ari Spiegel, Rosemarie Barret, Avi Netter and Shlomo Mazor



Terry Locketz, Jodi Sher (YAD Chairperson), Leora Hessen, Fiona Sacks, Jackie Levitt, Anthony Jacobs, Samantha Sher, Franki Cohen, Gita Osrin and Tanya Golan at registration.



Stenham 3: Wayne Bertrand, Neil Malan, Harold Sandak-Lewin and Barry Friedman



International Academy Student Salon ready to massage golfers.



Macsteel's Steven Cohen.



Jonny and Gita Osrin of Stenham.



Sanet from Karkloof Spa reflecting on the event.



Larry Gershowitz playing out of the bunker.



Team Sasfin in action.



Sportsman's Warehouse rehydration station.



Craig Deats — 'Le'Chaim!'.



Stenham hole number 9.



Mobelli's Alon Sachs.



Fuelled by caffeine from Origin.



Investec's Trevor Morris.



The Lexus hole.



Macsteel's Steven Steenkamp samples Scheckters OrganicEnergy™.



Marina Pienaar hydrating Rapha Israel.



Arriving at registration.

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HERZLIA IN FOCUS

HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 12 Valediction

The Principal's Matric Valediction speech

It is customary at Valediction for principals to give the matrics a message to take with them on their journey.

I have thought long and hard about what message I want to give you tonight. Inspiration came to me on Yom Kippur when I read a booklet published by British Chief Rabbi Baron Jonathan Sacks, in which he refers to the financial crash that the world is facing.

Matrics, this is what you are facing: it is an uncertain world; monetary systems are upside-down; the stock market could crash; property prices could fall; material possessions can be lost.

How do we ensure a life that is rich and valuable? Put simply, we have to determine what is really important.

For me, the following ingredients are at the top of the list:

1. Integrity, *meschlikheit*, honesty, respect and self-respect, consideration, helpfulness and moral excellence.
2. Generosity of spirit, embodying *gemilut chasadim*, generosity and kindness; giving *zedakah*; being able to forgive; being generous in giving praise; and the important but under-rated ability to be a good listener.
3. The sense of fulfilment and happiness derived from:
 - Loving relationships with parents, partners and children
 - Belonging to a community that we support and that supports us in times of joy as well as difficulty
 - Not taking life for granted: appreciating your time and using it well and, as Rabbi Sacks says, not travelling through life 'so fast that you never get to enjoy the view.'
 - Developing the resilience to cope with and learn from difficulty, adversity and failure.
 - And, lastly, honouring your commitments
4. The development of a strong sense of identity to guide us through life as a result of:
 - Being proud of being Jewish, recognising that our people have a very long history of survival and have made a huge contribution to the world in so many diverse ways.
 - Facing antisemitism by accepting that it is a fact of life and that, although always painful, you can deal with it best by confronting it, and holding your head up high.
 - Not looking down on those who are non-Jewish or who are less or more observant than you are.
 - Never compromising your principles or self-respect with regard to your religious beliefs.

If you can implement in your life these four blueprints — for *meschlikheit*; generosity of spirit; the sense of fulfilment and happiness and; finally, a strong sense of identity — you will surely have made the best possible investment: what Rabbi Sacks says is 'a life well lived, a life of meaning and principal and purpose, framed by a happy marriage, a warm and embracing family, and a strong, supportive community'.

Use our school motto — *im tirzu, ain zo aggadah* (if you will it, it is no mere dream) — to inspire you to have big dreams and, more important, to have the will to achieve them.



Yach Award for the top academic student in Grade 12: Miranda Kantor, with Principal Marianne Marks.



The Achvah Trophy: Grade 12 pupil who best exemplifies the meschlikheit for which Herzlia stands: Ruth Cohen and Elisheva Sacks.



The Hebrew Order of David International Cup for Sportswoman of the Year: Samantha Miller, with John Bransby.



The Hebrew Order of David International Cup for Sportsman of the Year: Brandon Joffe, with John Bransby.



The Charles Ment Award for Jewish Studies: Tal Hartuv, with guest of honour, Eliot Osrin.



The Martine, Lauren and Amanda Krawitz Award for having shown strength of character and personal development: Nicholas Stevens, with Lizelle Fryer and Eliot Osrin.

Grade 10 and 11 Prize giving



For commitment to Torah learning and dedication to the Beit Midrash programme: Grade 10: Ariella Barnett and Romy Cohen with Mrs Roy. Grade 11: Gadiel Margolin, Ariel Rubin, Liora Freeman, Mira Friedman, Tao Klitzner and Micaela Jacobson.



The Maccabi Award for Best All-Rounder Grade 10: Awarded to the pupil who has shown qualities of scholarship, leadership, sportsmanship and academic prowess, and who is an asset not only to the school but also to the community: Rachael Bootcov and Zena Kruss Van Der Heever



The Nasko Alexandrov Memorial Award: For the Grade 11 pupil who best exemplifies the values of meschlikheit — so highly regarded at Herzlia: Cleo Candy.



The Max and Margaret Rabie Cup for Best All-Rounder Grade 11: For academic excellence and enthusiasm in extra-curricular activities: Tao Klitzner.



The Ashley Kaimowitz Award: Presented in recognition of outstanding achievement and contribution to the Judaic life of the school: Kaylah Eisenstein



The Schaffer Trophy: The grade 10 pupil who best exemplifies the meschlikheit for which Herzlia stands: Zena Kruss Van Der Heever, Rachael Bootcov, Lara Blacher, and Marc Levitt with Mrs Marks.

CONSTANTIA

Awards Ceremony



The new Zelezniak Senior Music Trophy was shared by Lexi Sager, Sarah Saacks, Gala Winkler and Dana Cranko.



Principal Jos Horwitz with Dalya Zimbler, who won the new Star of Excellence Award.



The Zelezniak Junior Music Trophy was awarded to Josie Koen, Josh Baar and Rubie Chames.



The Danziger Award for diligence and excellent progress was awarded to Jamie Joffe and Zoe Amato.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Waterfront outing



Kaelly Berkovitz and Jessica Berkman dissect a sardine on the Grade 7 Aquarium outing.

The Grade 7s recently enjoyed a Science/History outing to the Waterfront.

They had a biology lesson in the laboratory at the Two Oceans Aquarium where they dissected sardines; a tour of the aquarium where they filled in a booklet based on the exhibits; and a history treasure hunt of the Waterfront.

Student Council integration evening

The Student Council hosted an 'integration evening' with Wynberg, Rustenberg, LEAP and Sakumlandela/Zerilda Park schools. The theme was 'South African youth have their say.'

Performer Larry Joe shared his inspirational life story, which focused on leadership. His music, singing and the accompanying drumming of Aron Turest-Swartz (a Herzlia alumnus, Larry's manager and founder of *Freshly Ground*) was impressive and meaningful.

Thereafter the pupils were divided into discussion groups on topics such as substance abuse, technology misuse, bullying, sexuality and teenage pregnancy.

Equal Education delivered an address on their book drive and rounded off the evening with entertaining report backs.

This event signified the professional competency of the Student Council 2012 and the hope that relationships with Cape Town youth can be developed.

Sport achievements



The Herzlia Triathlon team

Talia Rubin (gr. 8) has been selected for the Western Province U13B Waterpolo team. She will be participating in the SA Schools Championships at the end of the year.



Talia Rubin

Benji Goldberg, Sam Saevitzon and Benji Sack (gr. 9) took part in the Clanwilliam Freshpak Festival Triathlon. Benji Sack won the U19 1.5km swim and the Herzlia team came fourth by 22 seconds.

Benji Sack (gr. 9) swam a South African qualifying time in the 200m breaststroke in the West Ridge gala. At the 'Bridgehouse Mile' open water swim event he swam in the 16-19 age group non-wetsuit category (16 deg. water!) and was placed third with a time of 19 min. 27sec., with a 10th place overall out of over 200 entries. In the latest Western Province ratings, Benji is rated first in the 50m breaststroke, first in the 100m breaststroke and second in the 200m breaststroke for 16 year old boys.

WEIZMANN

Three penguins are adopted



Mrs Hendler and her Grade 4 class

Andrea Hendler and her Grade 4 class spent the morning at SANCCOB.

The children learnt about the plight of African penguins and other vulnerable seabirds, and the importance of preserving the natural and marine biodiversity.

The children were awarded this

opportunity as they were the class to raise the most funds during a *Tzedakah* drive for the organisation earlier in the year. In total, Weizmann school raised enough money to adopt three penguins, which were rehabilitated at SANCCOB and released back into the wild.

A musical mazeltov



Pauline Emdon, Jessica Valentine, Tom Chesno and Claudia Greenberg. Front: Sammy-Leigh Levetan and Ella Katz.

Mazeltov to Jessica Valentine, Tom Chesno, Claudia Greenberg, Sammy-Leigh Levetan and Ella Katz, the Weizmann pupils of Pauline Emdon who successfully passed the Royal Schools of Music Piano examination.

Celebrating Succot



Rabbi Wineberg with Max and Josh Russak during the Simchat Torah celebration.

Weizmann children enjoyed a Sukkah at school during the Chol Hamoad days of Succot. The children decorated the Sukkah with pictures and paper chains and had various lessons there.

PRE-PRIMARIES

The Starfish group support Bandana Day

Sarah Bloch children in the Starfish group with their teacher, Ingrid Gordon, wore bandanas to school in support of the Sunflower Fund.



Ella B. Farrell, Ariella Stellenboom, Ella Ginsburg Anastasopoulos, Ingrid Gordon (teacher), Tannah Zeff and Mira Steyn. Front: Casey Meyerowitz, Joshua Ferreira and Lenia Springer.

HIGHLANDS PRIMARY

Exploring the options of Kashrut

As part of the Jewish Life Syllabus, the grade 5 classes learnt about Kashrut by visiting Pick 'n Pay.

They visited the kosher bakery, the kosher meat section and looked at kosher products. In the bakery the children were shown how the dough is mixed and how to make challah rolls. In the meat section they made meat patties and boerewors. They were then instructed on how to identify kosher products on the shelves.



Joshua Gavronsky (Head of JIPSY) with Avi Zieff, Ethan Solomon, Michelle Georgieva, Abbi Meilech and Terry Cohen (front) at the kosher bakery.

PHYLLIS JOWELL JEWISH DAY SCHOOL



7"ס"ד



Phyllis Jowell School has been very busy, and it always seems like the second half of the year flies by with all the chaggim and so many functions, outings and theme weeks.

Olympic Games

In July we were all gripped by 'Olympic fever', and the whole school learnt all about the Olympic Games – including the history of the Games, the Olympic Flame, the South African team, the various symbols, and the different sports. It was an exciting time, and the children learned about sports, skills, rules and disciplines that they had not been exposed to before.



Tisha B'Av

The opening of the Olympic Games and Tisha B'Av fell in the same week this year, and we found a way to synthesise the message and reality of each. The children learned about the Munich Olympics and the Israeli team members who were killed there. We connected this to Tisha B'Av in the sense that we are not complete and in our full power until our Temple is rebuilt. We had a special moment of silence and *Tehillim* for the martyrs of Munich, which helped us to understand the modern-day impact of ancient history.

Mezuzah Ceremony

On 7 August we had a great turnout for the Mezuzah ceremony, marking the official opening of our second new Playgroup 1 classroom. This class will cater for children between the ages of 18 months and 2 years.

Open Day

The school was buzzing with excitement for Open Day, which was held on Sunday 19 August. There were lots of fun activities for the children, including Playball, *Kindermusiek*, arts and crafts, and fun with Maths and Science. The parents were treated to an inspiring talk by Rabbi Tatz and a talk by Rebbetzin Natalie on the topic *Making Education Sweet*.



Shwekey Fever

The excitement could hardly be contained when the children heard that performer Ya'akov Shwekey was coming to our school. We are so grateful to Rabbi Deren who chose to bring Shwekey to our school, knowing how much our children would appreciate this very special visit. Role-modelling is one of the most potent forms of education, and it was so powerful to have a Jewish 'pop star' at our school, teaching the children Torah and talking about their unique purpose in the world. The children so enjoyed singing some of their favourite songs with the original performer, and we were all proud to show off our school to an international star.



Literacy Week

What an incredible Literacy Week we had! It was packed full of activities for Pre- and Primary School learners, including rabbis telling stories; a visit to the library by the Foundation Phase; Grade 6 pupils reading stories to the little ones; shared and paired readings; a session on poetry and creative writing; a visit and talk by Theodore Yach (author of *In my Element*); a wonderful hot chocolate and storytelling evening; a 'Readathon'; and a visit by *Hooked on Books* ...all in one week! Whew!



Musical Instruments and Cooking

We had the most wonderful visit by P2G – a group of Israelis that are 'twinned' with different countries to bring the feel of Israeli culture and spirit to the Diaspora. They did an interactive cooking and music activity with the children, where the children made their own musical instruments using string and a can, and cooked *mufleta* – a Moroccan style pancake.



Grade 1 Siddur Party

The Grade 1 Siddur ceremony is definitely one of the highlights of the year. It is wonderful to see six and seven year olds able to read Hebrew fluently and be able to *daven*. It gives us such a sense of security and hope that these children can go to any shul in the world, follow in a siddur and fit in perfectly. *Yasher Koach* to our Grade 1 *yeladim* and their *Morah*.



Market Day

On Friday 12th October we held our annual Market Day. Market Day is a most valuable part of the Economic and Management Science (EMS) syllabus, which combines EMS, Literacy, Maths, Technology and Arts and Culture to teach learners of all ages the basics of entrepreneurship. Market Day involved all learners from Grade R-6 and each class worked as a team to research, produce, and market a product or service, which they sold during an afternoon to their friends, family and teachers. Emphasis is placed on the learners making and selling their own creations. Lots of fun was had by all and the children had wonderful items, do-it-yourself kits, games, recipe books and food for sale.



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Sharyn-Seidel Kometz and her daughter Dara are bringing fresh and exciting entertainment to the local music industry.

Their upbeat and energetic sound; as well as their varied age-gap, means that they appeal to audiences across the spectrum. Known as *Plumsong*, they are a light-hearted, classy cabaret mother-and-daughter duo. Their repertoire ranges from jazz and blues standards to current music — with a little theatrics thrown in!

Sharyn has had an extensive career in the music industry, both in South Africa and the United States; and belongs to a number of other musical acts.

Dara is a 19 year old university student who is passionate about the arts and already has a lot of musical experience. She was a member of the Herzlia school choir for many years, played the lead



Sharyn and Dara

in school productions and organised Herzlia's 'Idols' music event.

The duo are suited to dinner clubs, small restaurants, celebrations, birthdays, weddings, award shows and more. They have been performing regularly and have already received positive feedback. "A mother and daughter collaboration that leaves your heart feeling good! To watch Sharyn and Dara is to 'sit back, relax and enjoy the show' and be totally entertained whilst doing so. Their repertoire is vast and their range magical — a truly beautiful duo!" said Deb Newman Jardine, a choreographer and entertainment manager.

Entertainer Zola Piatka Shuman added: "Seamlessly flowing through songs old and new, they are so easy to watch and listen to and even sing along with! Pick a genre, and they'll deliver with ease, style and fabulousness."

Plumsong play at Cape Town's Diva's restaurant in Buitenkant Street every Sunday evening.

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"Fun, vibey, professional entertainment from this talented & versatile mother-daughter duo. Seamlessly flowing through songs old and new, they are so easy to watch and listen to & even sing along with :) Pick a genre, and they'll deliver with ease, style and fabulousness."
Zola Piatka Shuman

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Landscape of memory and dreams

From the Mouths of Babes traces the roots of three striking Jewish women in South Africa through stories and song at the Baxter this festive season.

Hot on the heels of its premiere at the Market Theatre in Johannesburg, the sensational *From the Mouths of Babes* comes to the Baxter Golden Arrow Studio over the festive season from 5 December to 5 January 2013 at 8.15pm nightly, with Saturday matinees at 2pm.

Malcolm Purkey directs three striking young Jewish women (Naami Gottlieb Lieberman, Sivan Raphaely and Sharon Spiegel-Wagner) who tell stories about their lives; the lives of their parents and grandparents; and how they arrived in South Africa. Their roots can be traced to Russia, Eastern Europe, North Africa, America, Israel and the Arab Peninsula.

The migration of their ancestors has contributed to their South African experience and who they are today. Purkey conceived the production with the cast, who sing glorious songs — both traditional and original — in a cappella style.

Their stories reflect growing up in South Africa and are wildly funny and sharply poignant in turn. Intricate and majestic songs in harmony fill the landscape of memory and dreams. Tales of humour and vulnerability bring their history alive to honour, celebrate and explore their reality.

From the Mouths of Babes is not recommended for children under 14 years, so parental guidance is advised. There is a special performance on 31 December at 10pm as part of the highly popular Baxter New Year's Eve celebrations which include a spectacular balloon drop, a



Naami Gottlieb Lieberman, Sivan Raphaely and Sharon Spiegel-Wagner performing.

complimentary glass of bubbly or juice, a live band and several other activities. Join the cast in the foyer after the performance to welcome 2013 with a bang.

"You don't have to be Jewish to fall in love with this fresh production featuring a cappella to make the hairs on your skin stand on end, and you will ask for more, but irrevocably cherish what you hear," wrote Robyn Sassen in *Artslink*. "It's storytelling at its most generous, and they weave their songs with voices as pure as can be, complementing the stories with music that is melancholic and magical. The unique quality of the music, the cappella and the harmonies are the highlight, and it's the start of a new kind of storytelling for these marvellously talented actors and singers" wrote Diane de Beer in *The Star Tonight*.

Book through Computicket on 0861 915 8000, online at www.computicket.co.za or at any Shoprite Checkers. For discounted corporate, block or schools bookings contact Sharon on 021 680 3962, sharon.ward@uct.ac.za or Carmen on 021 680 3993 or carmen.kearns@uct.ac.za.

RECONCILIATION DAY 7TH INTERFAITH PILGRIMAGE

Monday 17 December
9am - 11am

Redefining 'Reconciliation' in the context of the challenges we face in South Africa today

Dr Rashid Omar 'Corruption'

The Revd. Mpho Tutu 'Reconciliation'

Mr Johnny Copelyn 'Labour'

Meet at St George's Cathedral Labyrinth, from which we will walk thoughtfully together up the Company Gardens to the Gardens Synagogue and on to the Palm Tree Mosque in Long Street, with addresses at each venue.

Organised by: The Gardens Synagogue, The Palm Tree Mosque & St George's Cathedral.

ALL WELCOME!

Please bring comfortable shoes, sun hat and water!



THE MARKET THEATRE PRESENTS

from the mouths of BABES

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TRACE THEIR ROOTS THROUGH STORIES AND SONG
AT THE BAXTER THIS FESTIVE SEASON

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FICTION

APPANAH Natacha, **The Last Brother**. A tale of friendship between Raj and David, an Indian boy and an orphaned Jewish detainee in Mauritius; from a boat that was forbidden to land in Palestine.

BELLING Michael, **My Right Hand's Cunning: A Jerusalem Story**. A skilfully crafted historical novel that combines the parallel stories of a Holocaust survivor and the city of Jerusalem in 1951.

HARVEY Samantha, **The Wilderness**. On Jake's birthday, he is flown in an aeroplane over the landscape of his life. He has lost his wife, his son is in prison, and he has Alzheimer's. This extraordinarily powerful book grapples with the meaning of life.

TELUSHKIN Joseph (Rabbi), **The Unorthodox Murder of Rabbi Wahl: A Rabbi Daniel Winter Mystery**. An exciting psychological thriller, in which an appalling crime is observed through the complex and multidimensional lens of Jewish ethics.

NON FICTION

ALLEN Michael Thad, **Hitler's Slave Lords: The Business of Forced Labour in Occupied Europe**. While the bureaucrats who oversaw Holocaust operations have often been depicted as 'cogs in the machine', the author reveals their ideological dedication and fanatical devotion. Most surprising is the fact that the operation was run by no more than 200 officials.

COHEN Tim, **A Piece of the Pie: The Battle Over Nationalisation**. Brilliant research into South African contemporary politics, penetrating the delicate socio-political web from which the issue of nationalisation repeatedly rears its ugly head.

DUBOW Saul, **South Africa's Struggle for Human Rights**. South Africa's transition to a post-apartheid democracy has been celebrated as a triumph for global human rights. Yet the future of human rights and constitutionalism seem uncertain. This book explores African nationalism, liberalism, and republicanism and global trends.

GOLDBERG J. David (Rabbi Dr.), **This is Not the Way: Jews, Judaism and Israel**. The book examines Diaspora Jewry's complex relationship with the state of Israel.

FELDMAN Deborah, **Unorthodox: The Scandalous Rejection of My Hasidic Roots, a memoir**. Raised in the strictly religious Hasidic Satmar movement, Deborah is trapped in a dysfunctional marriage at the age of seventeen. After she has a child, she realises that both for herself and her son she will have to forge a path to freedom.

KAUTZSCH, Emil Friedrich (Ed.) **Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar**. The English translation of one of the most important scientific sources on the Hebrew grammar, whose first edition 'Hebräische Grammatik' appeared in 1813. This edition, published in 1910, is its last significant revision. It focuses entirely on Biblical Hebrew, mentioning Rabbinic Hebrew only occasionally and does not include modern Israeli Hebrew.

KUBERT Joe, **Yossel**. Famed comic creator Joe Kubert's family came to America from Poland in the 1920s. In this graphic novel, Yossel tries to answer the question: 'What if we had remained in Poland?'

LEVI Neil and ROTHBERG Michael (Eds.) **The Holocaust: Theoretical Readings**. In this prominent anthology, scholars and writers of a high calibre address the relationship between genocide and experience, memory and trauma, historiography, fascism and Nazi antisemitism, race, gender, and the theories of the unconscious.

RASKIN Saul, **Kabbalah in Word and Image: With the Book of Creation and from the Zohar**. Text in English, Yiddish and Hebrew (Reference department only). Saul Raskin (1886–1966) depicts scenes of Jewish life in New York, Jerusalem and Palestine and illustrations in a number of Jewish texts and books.

MECKLER Mel, **Betrayal in Budapest**. Why were the 440,000 Jews of Hungary deported to Auschwitz when the war was virtually lost? The author shows that the missing link was Miklós Horthy, who 'sold his soul' to Hitler in the hope of regaining Hungarian territory.

WEINBERG Paul, **Dear Edward: Family Footprints**. Retracing the story of his family with visual and literary mastery, the great photographer captures the unexpected images of South Africa.

STOESSINGER Caroline, **A Century of Wisdom: Lessons from the Life of Alice Herz-Sommer**. A gripping memoir of the world's oldest living Holocaust survivor and prominent concert pianist, now aged 108. Overcoming unspeakable hardships, she played over 100 concerts for her fellow prisoners, instilling them with comfort, hope and optimism.

ZUCCOTTI Susan, **Under His Very Windows: The Vatican and the Holocaust in Italy**. This meticulous research examines what the Pope and the Vatican did to rescue Jews during the Holocaust. It proves beyond reasonable doubt that the notion of his helpfulness behind the scenes is a myth.

HEBREW FICTION

MEYER Deon, **Devil's Peak**. A translation of one of the most famous local thriller writers tells the story of a former freedom fighter known as 'Tiny' who has finally achieved his dream of a peaceful life. But when his beloved son is taken away from him, policeman Benny Griessel is assigned the case.

AVNI Yoav, **What If**. In 1903 an offer to establish a Jewish State on what is today Kenya and Uganda was made by the British to Theodore Herzl. This book asks: What if the Zionist Congress had accepted the offer and Israel was born in East Africa instead of the Middle East?

BOOK OF THE MONTH

**What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank**

By Nathan Englander

A dazzling short story collection by one of America's most critically acclaimed writers. Some of the stories are masterpieces of ironic twists; some embody as dark a vision of the universe as you are likely to encounter; and all of them showcase a writer grappling with the great questions of modern life, steeped in Jewish identity.

Abraham Buchman z"l*A mensch, a role model and a true friend*

Abe Buchman's life was a metaphor for the whole Jewish experience.

Life in the shtetl, the pogroms, the early Aliyah movement, the Holocaust, the frantic search for safety in countries like South Africa, and the birth and subsequent development of Israel — Abe's life reflected it all.

Born in a shtetl in Kiev and living in a harshly antisemitic society, Abe realized that only by having a Jewish state could Jews live in peace and flourish.

He made Aliyah at the age of 13 and immediately immersed himself in Zionist activities, becoming a follower of Jabotinsky's Revisionist Party. Due to his activism, Abe became a 'wanted man' so he moved to Northern Rhodesia; where he played an active role as chairman of the Central African Zionist Association.

When Menachem Begin visited South

Africa, Abe accompanied him and planned the trip. An ardent Likudnik, Abe has served as an active member of the South African Zionist Federation (Cape Council)

formally known as the Western Province Zionist Council, for over 30 years.

Abe was also the chairman of the Jacob Gitlin Library for three years. He was an honorary vice-president of the WPZC and was given the Jerusalem Award by the World Zionist Organisation in recognition of his services to the Zionist movement.



THANK YOU

Grateful thanks to our faithful members and supporters for attending the library's annual Jacob Gitlin Memorial Lecture, which was delivered by Prof. Richard Mendelsohn. Your warm response to his latest research on 'Revisiting the Jews in South Africa: Fresh perspectives in the South African Jewish Past', really enriched the evening.



For more information and frequent updates, follow us on Facebook: Jacob Gitlin Library

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MÁRAI Sándor, **Esther's Inheritance**. What is it to be in love with a pathological liar? Esther is, and has been for the more than two decades since Lajos disappeared from her life. Now many years later, Lajos returns, and the greatest part of his charm—and his danger—lies in the deftness with which he wields that delicate power.

MUSIC CDS

KRAKAUER David (Clarinet) **Kronos Quartet: The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind** (1994). Argentinian composer Osvaldo Golijov's (b.1960) composition echoes the joy and sorrow, the passion and reason of the entire Jewish experience.

KENAN Rona, **Breathing Down to Zero**. This debut album was produced by the legendary Israeli producer and musician Izhar Ashdot.



A tribute to Nechama volunteers

'The Jewish community could not exist a day without its volunteers.'

By Chief Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Among the memories I cherish of an unforgettable Olympic summer was the way 70,000 volunteers transformed the mood of London, turning it for a while into a more gracious place.

Helpful, courteous, smiling, they seemed to symbolise the better angels of our nature. Members of my local synagogue who volunteered told me what a privilege they felt it to be, even though it involved long hours and meant missing the Games themselves. It was a reminder of a truth we sometimes forget — that the greatest untapped source of renewable energy is altruism. People want to give.

Volunteering has been undervalued in Britain for a long time. Often it has been seen as a kind of cut-price, amateur version of work that would be better done by the state. When politicians speak about it, people hear in the background the sound of budgets being cut.

But voluntary work is actually something else altogether. It is an expression of shared responsibility for common good. It is personal engagement in pursuit of an ideal. It is active citizenship of the highest order. It softens the contours of random fate. It tells us that not all compassion can be paid for by taxes and outsourced to government agencies. A society in which there are high levels of voluntary activity

will simply be a better, happier place than one where there are not. Ask any volunteer and they will usually tell you that they gain more than they give. They don't do it for recognition. They do it because they know volunteering helps change the world, because it changes us.

Jews know this in their bones. Our community could not exist for a day without its volunteers. They are the lifeblood of our organisations, whether they involve welfare, youth, education, care of the sick and elderly, or even protection against violence and abuse. It's a tradition going back 26 centuries to the Babylonian exile when, for the first time after achieving statehood, Jews found themselves without a land or home of their own. They were without rights or power. They knew that if they were to maintain a communal infrastructure, they would have to do it for themselves. So began a tradition of voluntary collective responsibility that sustained Jews through centuries.

The art of association

In medieval Europe, wherever you found a community of Jews you would also find a dense network of *chevrot* ('fellowships') for every conceivable purpose: food and clothing, dowries for poor brides, medical attention, burial of the dead, support for the bereaved, assistance for the unemployed or incapacitated, and a system of education elsewhere. It was

driven by the twin principles laid down by the pre-Christian sage Hillel: "If I am not for myself, who will be? But if I am only for myself, what am I?" It was, in essence, a voluntary welfare state, and it gave rise to habits of the heart that still mark Jewish communities today.

No less significant than the Jewish experience is what happened in Britain and America in the nineteenth century. These were societies undergoing profound transformation. It was the age of industrialisation, in which people were moving from countryside to town, villages to cities, living and working in cramped, unsanitary conditions. The results were there for anyone to see: disrupted communities, dysfunctional families, neglected children, alcoholism, domestic abuse and street violence — the world of Dickens' novels that troubled the consciences of social reformers.

The response in both countries was extraordinary: an unprecedented proliferation of charities, voluntary associations and friendly societies, focussing on neglected groups in society: children, widows, the poor, the sick and the uneducated. Charities could be found establishing schools, hospitals, almshouses, orphanages, shelters for the homeless and 'settlements' in deprived urban areas. The effect was to strengthen civil society and humanise fate at a time

when the benefits of economic growth were unevenly distributed. Alexis de Tocqueville, writing in the 1830s, rightly saw volunteering — he called it 'the art of association' — as an essential part of 'the apprenticeship of liberty'. Too much dependence on the state, he believed, would undermine the health of democratic freedom.

We are going to need something similar in the 21st century as our social needs outrun our ability to pay for them through taxation. But the case for volunteering is only secondarily economic and political. Fundamentally it is moral and ethical. Strong states need strong societies, and the difference between them is that the state uses legislation and coercion; society uses altruism and empathy. The first supplies needs; the second changes lives. Whether our slogan is 'the big society' or 'one nation', we will only get there by getting up and taking part. Giving is what makes a nation great.

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ARTS AND CULTURE

The unconventional artist

Local artist David Myers is making waves in the art world with his powerful, unique and exciting paintings that are unlike anything seen before.

"I have always been passionate about great design, in whatever form it is manifested," says David. "Whether it be the perfect shape of an orchid, the classic lines of Scandinavian furniture or the ingenious London underground map, this love of design has inspired my painting."

"Having no art background or training, I don't know the rules. This makes it easy to break them. I find this challenging and exciting," he explains. Indeed, David was working in the corporate world, when "A client, completely out of the blue, asked me whether I painted," he says. The client continued to insist that David must paint, and eventually he decided to give it a try. The rest is history, and at the beginning of 2011 David

"Materials I have used include Perspex, twine, sheet music and old newspapers."

decided to retire from the corporate world and paint full time. His first solo exhibition took place at the prestigious Gallery 88 in Paarl.

In this context, Judaism has influenced David's life and work as an artist. "I think the influence has been indirect," he says. "The fact that I don't consciously use external stimuli for inspiration to a large extent an

means that every painting is to an extension of myself. As such, all my experiences in life, my beliefs and my environment influence my thoughts and ideas and consequently my paintings. I started painting some five years ago as a result of a spiritual experience when I was told by a total stranger that I should become an artist. I have never forgotten this and I believe it has influenced a lot of my work."

Multi-dimensional materials

David's methods are equally unconventional and exciting. In his work, he explores the use of colour and various materials. "I often use techniques and materials without knowing whether other artists do the same," he says. "I seldom use brushes. I recently completed a series of large pieces using chopsticks and toothpicks as my brushes."

"I started experimenting with enamel paint and was excited by the finishes I could get," he says. "I also began using a variety of mixed-media materials. I try to ensure that the work is essentially a painting with the mixed-media materials being a small added-value element. Materials I have used include Perspex, twine, sheet music and old newspapers."

Indeed, with his use of texture and three-dimensional materials, David's pictures are beyond paintings — they are works of creativity that leap off the canvas; making you engage with the image with all your senses. A tree made out of wire extends out of the paint, looking like it is moving in the Cape South Easter; cotton threads seem to wrap the canvas and rusted metal makes the picture a multimedia experience.

David would like to see the art world in South Africa

evolve to become more inclusive and broader in meaning and scope. "I would love to see the concept of investment art disappear. It would be utopia if people bought art because they loved it and because it made them feel good," he says. "The novelty of starting with a blank canvas and producing something that people seem to like, has never worn off."

To follow David's art journey from 2007 to date, visit his website www.davidmyersart.co.za. Private viewings of his collection can be arranged by phoning 082 411 0444. He accepts commissions.



David Myers



'Paradise' 78 x 78cm. 2010. Enamel and mixed media on canvas on board.



'Rust in peace'. 75 x 150cm. 2011. Acrylic and mixed media on canvas on board.



'Kaleidoscope' 100 x 50cm. 2009. Acrylic and enamel on canvas on board.

A Jerusalem story

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning." This city of spirituality and stones is such an essential part of who we are. Local author Michael Belling's new book sets its story in Yerushalayim.



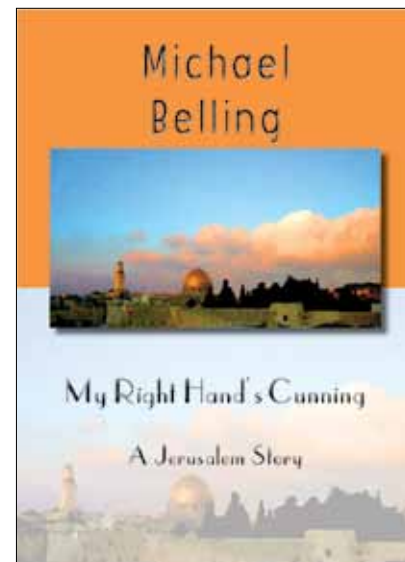
Michael Belling

"This is both a tender love story and a description of Israel in its early years," says Michael. "It tells of how a Holocaust survivor, a taciturn 'shell' of a man, is drawn out of his isolation by the love of a woman who brings him back to life after his concentration camp experiences," he explains.

Entitled *My Right Hand's Cunning — A Jerusalem Story*, "It is also a story of Jerusalem and Israel, the city and the country, in the turbulent years after Independence, facing the challenges of hostile neighbours and absorbing hundreds of thousands of refugees from Arab countries, while building a new society and state."

Michael says that Israel, its story and its people inspired him to write the book. Having received his LLB degree from the Hebrew University; practised as an advocate in Jerusalem and been a foreign correspondent in Israel; Michael is certainly qualified to tap into the essence of Israel and write a story that captures its inspirational energy.

At the same time, this is also a great read. "The story has been termed as 'gripping'



and is interwoven with the story of Israel at a very difficult time, in the early years of the country. This makes for a fascinating historical context," says Michael.

The story is special in that it weaves together the most dramatic moments of the Jewish world in the twentieth century — the Holocaust and the creation of the state of Israel. It explores both the tragedy and triumph of these eras; and brings all this together in a

story that demonstrates how these dramatic events have impacted us all.

'My Right Hand's Cunning — A Jerusalem Story' by Michael Belling is available as an e-book and from selected book stores.

My 'Seeds of Peace' experience

By Sarah Shaff

This past summer I went to a camp called 'Seeds of Peace'. It was the most empowering experience of my life.

The Seeds of Peace organisation inspires and equips new generations of leaders from regions of conflict with the relationships, understanding, and skills needed to advance lasting peace.

When my Israeli group arrived at the camp, a large crowd of Palestinians, Indians, Americans and councilors greeted us. I soon felt like these people were like family, and didn't remember the fact that we were supposed to be 'enemies'.

Then it was time to meet my bunk mates, which was terrifying. Many thoughts were going through my head that people had told me before I came... "Even if you're with people that hate you, stay strong"... I was preparing for the worst.

I first met Natalie, an American girl. We immediately became good friends. Then I met Reena, who was from Egypt. Maya was from the West Bank, a complete 'tomboy' with a great sense of humour. Then another two girls appeared, Kate and Samara. Kate is Druze and right away saw what an amazing person she was. Then there was Samara, she was also from the West Bank but something in her eyes made me feel very uncomfortable, almost like she had judged me before I even got to know her.

We were introduced to our counsellors — Neda, who was Palestinian-American; Becca who was Christian and Amanda who was Jewish. They were wonderful.

For the next few days we were introduced

to our dialogue group, which consisted of three Palestinians, two Jordanians, one Egyptian, two Americans and four Israelis. My first few sessions of dialogue were definitely the hardest. So many things were said out of anger and frustration that could not be taken back.

I remember my Jordanian friend telling me how the Jews deserved the Holocaust. Tears filled my eyes and I ran out of the room and to my bunk where I found Neda, my Palestinian counsellor. She comforted me and made me feel so much better. This was one of my most unique experiences at camp — who would have thought that a Palestinian girl would be comforting an Israeli about something offensive that had been said about the Holocaust.

Starting with this generation

So many more awful things were said that made me want to leave; but what kept me from going was knowing that I was representing my country and by avoiding everyone's opinions I was just making them feel stronger. Lots of times during dialogue I felt very alone, feeling like the fellow Israelis in my group were not supporting me enough. I felt like I was in fact the only one defending our country, which made me scared sometimes.

Another day that had a great impact on me was Asel's memorial day. Asel was a past Seeds of Peace participant who was killed in a conflict situation between Israeli soldiers and Palestinians. I felt so sad at the loss of a teenager in this horrible conflict. This wasn't just a news report — we were living it.

There was one particular day which I will never forget and that touched me deeply. I saw my bunkmate Reena lying on her bed looking upset. I asked her what was wrong she told me she didn't feel like going home. Silly me thinking I knew what she meant, I answered her saying "Me too, it's so much fun here I don't ever want to leave!" She looked up at me as tears came rolling down her face and she said "No Sarah, I really don't want to go home. I live with my mom and sister in a poor town in Egypt. My dad died four years ago and my mom remarried a man a few months ago who has hurt me." I looked at her in disbelief, because I had never heard such a terrible thing, at least not from a friend of mine. I just wrapped my arms around her and hugged her.

So many more incredible and shocking experiences happened to me at this camp that there are just no words to describe them. I will never regret going, although many things hurt me and still hurt me today. I learnt so much that I would never learn anywhere else. This is what our future should look like — everyone helping one another, no matter where from, and after all these emotions and friendship the big question that remains is — can there ever be peace between our people?

Most of the time I don't believe there can



Sara (Muslim Palestinian from the West Bank), Nabeel (Muslim Palestinian from West Bank), Tala (Christian from Jordan) and Sarah Shaff (Jewish Israeli) all enjoying an American baseball match.

ever be peace because the differences between us are too great; our history and their history do not agree; our truths and their truths are completely different. Yet two weeks after returning home, the Jordanian boy that told me that the Jewish people deserve the Holocaust called me on Skype and personally apologised for what he had said. He told me that he had been thinking about what he had said non-stop and had to apologise personally. However he is still too scared to tell his father that there were Jews and Israelis sharing rooms with him at the camp and that he still keeps in contact with his Israeli and Jewish friends. One thing is for sure — it has to start with my generation.

Sarah is the daughter of Susan and Trevor Shaff. She and her family live in Israel after making Aliyah from Cape Town three years ago.

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BNEI AKIVA

Machaneh Ahavat Olam is around the corner!

Camp, camp, camp... Wow it is so soon! Running from 11 — 31 December, Machaneh Ahavat Olam has so many awesome things to offer.

This includes fun and interesting tochniot (programmes), tiyulim (hikes), ruach sessions, the biggest Shabbat services in the southern hemisphere, Havdallah, volleyball, chilling with your madrichim and friends and so much more.

This year, camp is going to be one of 'firsts'. This is the first time that Bnei Akiva has had a female Rosh Machaneh, Batya Bloch. Bnei has also taken up a challenge to plant new trees on the campsite.

This year there are a number of Cape Townians in leadership positions. Josh Sevit is Rosh Gurim and Aviva Lazarus is Rosh Ktan Tanim. Natasha Scher is the Cape Town co-ordinator. Josh Gelb is Sgan Na'aleh, Melissa Marcus is Sgan Bachad, Jordy Sank is Sgan Chinuch and Jess Gotlieb is Sgan Lehava.

Last month our entire focus was on camp preparations, from pre-camp tochniot to school visits and parents meetings.

In October, Lehava had their Rosh, Josh Hovsha, come down from Joburg and spend a great Shabbos here chilling with the channichim. This was also a part of our annual Shabbat Aliyah celebrations.

We also had a lot of school visits, where we spoke to channichim about camp. We had visiting council members from Johannesburg who came to add to the 'Bnei vibe' at the Herzlia schools and bond with their channichim.

At the beginning of November, Gurim and Ktan Tanim had an awesome activity

of tie-dyeing and soccer. At the same time we had a Gurim and Ktan Tanim parents meeting at the Bayit where we told them about all our preparations and innovations for camp, and got their input as well.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Josh Gavronsky a huge mazaltov on his wedding to Nat Brower which was on 27 November. It was a magical wedding!

I would also like to welcome back Jordy Sank who has returned to Cape Town after spending two years in Israel on MTA and then Shanah Bet at Yeshivat Har Etziyon. We have also heard that everyone who is currently on our MTA and Limmud programmes are having an amazing time and, although they do not want to leave, we cannot wait for their return and involvement in the movement next year.

Recently we hosted Rav Noam and Jeremy Kurnedz from world Bnei Akiva, who met with Bnei chevre to gain insight into Bnei Akiva Cape Town and with the parents of those who are going on Israel programmes next year.

If you want to be added onto the Bnei e-mail list to hear about all our events and activities, please e-mail capetown@bnei.co.za. For any queries, suggestions, or feedback, please don't hesitate to contact the office either by e-mail or by phone (021-4392740).

If you are still writing exams I would like to wish you the best of luck! I am sure everyone will do very well. I can't wait to see you all at camp next week once everyone is done!

*B'vrikat Torah V'Avodah
Josh Todes*



NETZER

Reflections and ruach

If I were to truly reflect on the entire year that has literally flown past, I would not only go over the word limit of this article, but would probably exceed the limit for the entire Chronicle!

There is simply too much to say. Netzer South Africa has grown from strength to strength, and we will continue to do so with the community's support.

It has been a busy and tough year, with our leadership being almost entirely new. Finding our feet was trickier than we anticipated, but once we got the ball rolling, nothing could stop us.

As you read this, we are about to start Machaneh Lazuz. We will be learning, singing, exploring, and most of all having an incredible time, full of laughter and friendship. We are getting to know our new Shlichim, who we will introduce properly to the community in the New Year.

If you drive past our Glencairn campsite, you might be lucky enough to hear our incredible ruach (spirit) from your car. For those of you who've missed out this time, don't worry — there is always next year!

I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone well over the holidays. I hope that with relaxation and 'time out' comes a space to think and reflect on your year. Being part of a youth movement, I am constantly reminded of my 'inner child'. It is important that no matter how old you are, or what stage of your life you are in, that you make an effort to reflect — it is often this process that can make you appreciate who you are, and your incredible capabilities.

I hope you all have a fantastic break, and that we all return in the new school and work year healthy and happy. Great things lie in store for Netzer South Africa, and we can assure you that next year is going to be the best yet!

Nina Hoffman



HABONIM DROR

HDSA must stand up for civil rights

This year, several pieces of controversial legislation have appeared in South Africa's parliament.

HDSA has debated the implications of the Protection of State Information Bill, but few of us have taken the time to discuss the numerous other pending bills that represent threats to our democracy.

Tacit attacks on our Constitution are to be found in the Legal Practice Bill — a draft law seeking to dissolve the independent Bar Councils, bringing the legal fraternity under the authority of the Ministry of Justice and the Traditional Courts Bill. This is a genuine threat to the hard-fought rights of rural communities across South Africa and should be a source of extreme concern for us as critical thinking South Africans.

Especially in the context of Tribal Authority and Customary Law in South Africa, and our history of 'Bantustans', it is abundantly clear that attempts at entrenching ethnic authority are not supported by South Africa's rural communities and have no place in our democratic dispensation. In this context, some of the provisions in the Traditional Courts Bill are ludicrous. The bill's stated aim is to give rural people speedier access to justice and grant greater respect to Customary Law in the South African justice system. Both of these measures are necessary, but the bill's implications are far more sinister.

For a start, it assigns every black South African in rural areas to a Tribal Authority. These correspond almost identically to the areas demarcated by the 1913 Land Act and the 1951 Bantu Authorities Act. In other words, it signifies the return of apartheid-era ethnic administration.

The bill also decrees that anyone living under Tribal Authority is obligated to take cases to a Traditional Court, without the option of approaching a civil court first. These institutions are highly important in rural South Africa and are instrumental in resolving local disputes, but are largely

controlled by middle-aged men, most of whom are not elected to office. The chiefs involved are also given the power to decide what the term 'custom' actually means — a provision clearly violating the principle of Separation of Powers, in that chiefs are able to formulate laws to suit their interests.

Women are largely unable to act as judges under this system and are not allowed to represent themselves — a male relative must act on their behalf. Furthermore, this system gives locals no choice to opt-out of court proceedings — if a person has a claim lodged against them, and they wish to take it to another court, court proceedings simply go on in their absence, denying them a right to a fair trial.

When verdicts are handed down, in some cases, people will be denied the right to appeal. And in cases where appeals are permitted, plaintiffs will first have to have their case heard in a Traditional Court — assigned to them by the state, on the basis of ethnic groups — before they have the right to approach a civil court. This denies them their right to cultural affiliation. Effectively, it means rural black citizens have to jump through hoops before they can make use of our secular justice system.

The Traditional Courts Bill is not the way to strengthen Customary Law in South Africa, or give rural communities speedier access to justice. Customary Law is dynamic and changing, but must be developed within the Constitution. Strengthening traditional authorities must not infringe on people's freedom of choice, or cultural affiliation.

This bill represents a return to apartheid-era policies. As HDSA, it is our duty to join to oppose this draconian attempt to entrench ethnic hierarchies. Rural South Africans have the same rights as everyone else, and do not require a state-appointed chief to tell them how to live their lives.

*Raphael Chaskalson
HDSA Head of Publications*



Looking back on a successful 2012!

As we approach the end of the year it is time to reflect on Hagshama's work throughout 2012.

Kicking off with a great launch at Nisha, Hagshama members were wined and dined, and introduced to each other in the magnificent setting of Camps Bay. In March we were entertained by Larry Joe, who delivered a powerful message that was perfectly in sync with Hagshama's aim of fulfilling people's potentials.

On Yom Ha'atzmaut we hosted a 'Chilla Lounge', where guests could enjoy the beats of Balkan music. In the educational arena, Alan Fischer and Elliot Rose spoke to Hagshama about the Boycott Divestment campaign and how to combat it in social media.

The Hafla delegation from Israel hosted a wonderful evening of music and food, and whet our appetites for what Israel has to offer our community. The Sukkot Braai in conjunction with Bnei Akiva; and



Melissa Marcus, Michael Kay and Nicole Marcus enjoying the Hagshama launch!

the employment evening with Old Mutual gave our members social interaction and essential tips for the future. Sport came in the form of the soccer tournament, which was won by the CSO team.

Hagshama will be hosting an end-of-the-year social event to wrap up a great and very busy year. I would like to extend my greatest thanks to everyone involved with this project and look forward to seeing Hagshama grow from strength to strength.

Michael Kay

Glendale goes strawberry-picking



On Sunday 28 October the Glendale residents went strawberry picking.

They were accompanied by Sister Edna Kannemeyer, four general assistants and driver Jeffrey, who started the trip with a scenic drive along the coast that added to the excitement.

On arrival at Polkadraai farm stall in Stellenbosch, we were greeted by Mrs Greta Zetler. Snacks and cold drinks were served.

We then began picking strawberries in the fields. Some of the residents handled this task with expertise, while others needed assistance. The strawberries were placed in boxes for each resident. After the hard work they did some sightseeing, taking in the tranquil surroundings. They all had a wonderful morning and can't stop talking about this exciting day!

Thank you to Julia Rabie for being instrumental in arranging this truly memorable outing and above all Mrs Greta Zetler for her generous hospitality and continued interest in the welfare of the residents.



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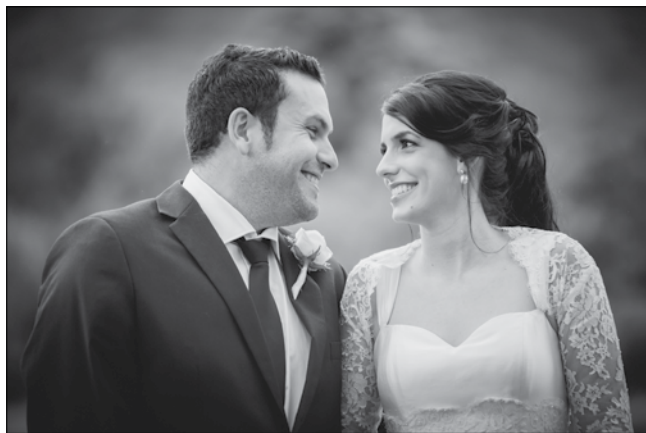
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100 not out! Max Cohen celebrated his 100th birthday on 20 September. Family and friends from all over the world came to Cape Town to celebrate. Max was born in Caledon to immigrant parents. He studied at UCT before joining up and serving in the Western Desert during WW2. After the war, Max returned to Cape Town where he met and married Estelle. They have been married for 66 years, and Estelle celebrated her 95th birthday just weeks before Max's birthday. Max was one of the founding partners of Musikanth, Cohen & Fine, a firm of accountants, today known as Mazars.

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SPORTING SUCCESSES!

Lifetime Achievement Award

Derrick Levy was recently honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his lifetime commitment to the South African boating industry.



Derrick Levy

Lake Como. He also represented the country in Barefoot Skiing and Boat Racing.

Derrick is a qualified skipper for motor yachts and boats under one hundred tons, invaluable as a retailer and broker of new and pre-owned motor yachts and mid-size cruisers.

In conversation, many marine dealers acknowledged Derrick and his fellow awardees for their business

pro prowess, dedication and commitment to furthering boating as a top choice for leisure time activity involving the whole family and friends.

The award was presented at a cocktail evening at the new Johannesburg Boat Show recently.

Derek and four other retail and boat building legends were heralded by their peers as key players in boating and highlighted for their outstanding contribution to the industry over the years.

Derrick has been involved in watersports his whole life, representing South Africa in Ski Racing (competing in all major international tournaments) and winning the Italian Grand Prix on



Western Province Maccabi

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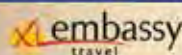
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