

★ JEWISH CAPE CHRONICLE

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Des Says...

By Desrae Saacks, Editor Cape Jewish Chronicle



Surfacing

In last month's issue, Julian Resnick used a particular word in a way that I had not encountered before.

In his capacity as a tour guide in Israel, he wrote, "I am so terribly allergic to sites which demand of me as a guide to be faithful to a central message," and goes on, "I am stubborn about my right to *surface* all the questions which every site worthy of a visit demands us to consider." (see [CJC June 2022 page 28](#))

I suggested changing 'surface' to 'cause to surface', and Julian responded with a firm insistence that his choice of the word remains. The word has stayed in my consciousness and I have grown to like it very very much! It communicates not so much a causality, rather a more subtle 'allowing to emerge'. It comes to mind again as I write about thoughts surfaced by the Covid pandemic, and in particular the practice of wearing masks.

Unmasked

On Wednesday 22 June, Minister of Health Joe Phaahla signed a document repealing the coronavirus mandate on mask-wearing. We have permission to unmask. Well, literally anyway.

While the Covid-19 pandemic has been devastating and traumatic on so many levels, it has *unmasked* some unpleasant truths.

We were confronted with the precariousness of our security, and the unavoidable and deeply uncomfortable truth that at any moment the rug could be ripped from under our feet. Also on display was the profound inequality that exists in our society, along with the sobering

reminder that we are all connected. The virus did not discriminate between class, gender, religion or any other constructed divisions among us.

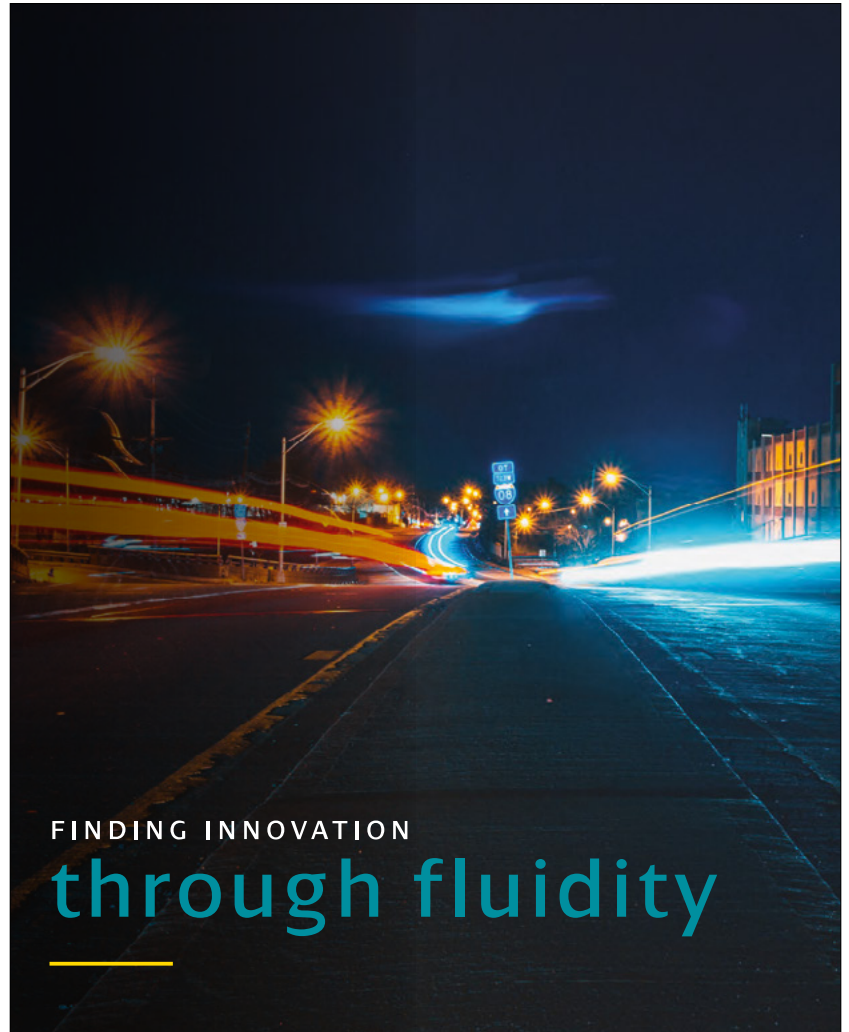
Masking

On the other hand, while (literal) masking-up was necessary to prevent the spread of the virus, the function of insulating and separating ourselves from our fellow human beings surely impacted on our individual, collective and political psyches.

Wearing a mask carries with it a subliminal message that the world 'out there' is not safe. When this kind of thinking exceeds its rational bounds, paranoia sets in, and the primal brain responsible for survival takes over, switching to a fight, flight or freeze behaviour. We turn inward rather than navigating our vulnerability, finding comfort in denial; as if acknowledging an uncomfortable truth invites it in. And so we 'mask up'. We construct new barriers and employ extreme measures to protect ourselves.

Expanding the frame beyond Covid, it's a challenge to keep the balance between healthy vigilance and self-protection on the one hand; and faith in our resilience on the other. Sometimes life is tough! No-one gets away unscathed but we are generally equipped to navigate the knocks that life dishes out, and to learn and grow from them. In fact, openness and vulnerability are essential for growth to occur.

The Covid pandemic created conditions that serve as a large-scale social experiment. It forced us into a new and unfamiliar reality, and surfaced reactions and consequences that I'm sure will be unpacked for years to come.



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Date	Portion	Candle lighting		Ends
		Earliest	Latest	
1 July/3 Tammuz	Korach	4.46pm	5.30pm	6.26pm
8 July/10 Tammuz	Chukkat	4.49pm	5.34pm	6.29pm
15 July/17 Tammuz	Balak	4.52pm	5.38pm	6.33pm
22 July/24 Tammuz	Pinchas	4.56pm	5.42pm	6.37pm
29 July/2 Av	Mattot Mase	4.59pm	5.47pm	6.41pm

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

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For the first time in 3 years Mandela Day is happening live in-person AND online!!

Join us at the Langa Quarter in Cape Town, or via livestream on Zoom!



The Langa Quarter in Cape Town is a secure community hub space in Langa, 15 mins from CT CBD. A safe and secure space with plenty of parking. A social enterprise pilot project that encourages the development of small businesses and sustainable township tourism, and powered by the local community.

Together we will be preparing a delicious soup – chopping veggies grown locally by urban farmers in Langa – to be distributed for Mandela Day to local communities in need. Followed by a 'Lunch & Learn' – talks and discussions with local farmers, social entrepreneurs and community organisers.



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- > Provide seedlings and compost to 150 urban farmers and their families, across 31 food farms.



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CONNECT, COLLABORATE, COMMUNITY

How invested are you in the community?

By Daniel Bloch, Executive Director, Cape SAJBD

In previous Chronicle editions, I have focused on the importance of elections, being an active citizen and leadership.

The Cape SAJBD will host its elections from August-September this year and members of the community are encouraged to get involved. You can either stand for the Board or vote for your preferred candidates who will represent you within the community. Who will step up and take on the challenge? Where do all these future leaders come from?

Since November 2021, I have been actively participating in a Leadership Development Programme, run by the Eliot Osrin Leadership Institute. EOLI recruits emerging, professional, lay (volunteer) and executive leadership for a pipeline of succession. Cohort three, of which I am part, includes 17 community members, some of whom are involved in communal organisations and others who are not.

It is fantastic to see so many members of our community eager and willing to be more involved in the community. For some, it will be their first foray into communal life. They are using the EOLI programme as a platform to engage in discussion, learn about the community and improve their leadership skills.

What I have truly enjoyed so far are the discussions. I enjoy listening to what each person has to say. It's fascinating to see how much or how little someone knows about the community and the role each organisation plays. I have found it to be an excellent opportunity to gain a fresh perspective and learn new ideas. By actively engaging and listening to what my fellow cohorts have to say, I have been able to gather valuable information and put this into practice across various Board initiatives. We have all expanded our knowledge of the community and now have a better sense of what the challenges and opportunities are.

I would like to encourage my generation to step up and get more involved. Become active citizens! Most of us have families with young children, we are settled in our careers and for the foreseeable future, plan on staying in Cape Town. Surely we want to live in a city and be part of a community which benefits us? If we want to provide the best possible future for our children, we need to take matters into our own hands and not rely on someone else to get the job done.

I am not saying that everyone should try to become the chairperson or director of a Jewish organisation (maybe give it a few years), but try joining your shul or school committee or volunteering for one of the many Jewish organisations that need people. If you cannot decide on one particular area of the community to work in, then the obvious choice would be the Cape South African Jewish Board of Deputies.

There are many amazing people who have dedicated their lives to the community, working with and for a variety of communal organisations. They have selflessly given their time, money, blood and sweat, educating the youth, building facilities, providing for those who have nothing, inspiring generations, providing spiritual guidance and ultimately creating a proud Western Cape Jewish Community.

We are all invested in our community whether it be via religion, work, education, Israel, finances or Yiddishkeit. We should all be held accountable for what happens in our community and all need to take responsibility for our actions as well as our inactions. Can you really stand by and simply watch? Now is the time to do more, to help others and ultimately, help yourself. #GETINVOLVED #VOTESMATTER



VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

The role of the Board and its importance in the community

By Tzvi Brivik, Chairperson, Cape SAJBD

Many recognise the role of the Board as that of ensuring that any reported acts of antisemitism are acted upon.

Whilst this is a primary role, it is certainly not the sole mandate from the community. The Cape Board is effectively a provincial assembly of the community. It constitutes a chamber in which all matters affecting the Jewish community within the jurisdiction of the Cape are canvassed, debated and analysed. This is why it is often referred to as an umbrella body whose deliberations and activities are to benefit the community.

Describing it somewhat differently, the Board's mandate and scope of authority include both internal matters insofar as harmonious relations are concerned, as well as protecting the Jewish community from external risks which present themselves — be they in the form of antisemitism, hate speech or a direct infringement of the way in which we are able to practice our religion. We also recognise that within our own community we have many diverse opinions which need to be heard and respected. So how does such a diverse community and a thriving democracy act and function to ensure its success?

A key task for any communal organisation to be successful is to reflect on what basic rules and ideals should be entrenched in our day-to-day functioning. The Jewish philosopher and author of *The Great Experiment: Why Diverse Democracies Fall Apart and How They Can Endure*, Yascha Mounk suggests considering inter alia the following:

- What role should the [Board] have in a diverse community such as our own?
- To what extent are diverse opinions expected to be integrated into mainstream thought?
- What sort of informal rules should structure the way in which people lead their daily lives, particularly regarding aspects of religion and patriotism?

In order to ensure the achievements of the Board; and that the community is a thriving democracy, a broad tent approach is advocated. This means that members of our Board are effectively

parliamentarians and representatives of a full kaleidoscope of the community. The mandate is to ensure protection both from external groups as well as persecution internally. Members of our community must feel free to express opinions and debate the same within a safe space. The Board has for some time now run various campaigns including #wordsmatter, #communitycares and #noplaceloforhate, to ensure this.



We have spent a significant amount of time meeting with our affiliates internally, and with members of our community, supporting projects such as book launches, distribution of reading material for bat mitzvah girls and their parents; as well as making contact with Jewish children and families at non-Jewish day schools. We have also met with various nonprofit organisations which operate in the broader community as well as political and religious leaders, to uphold our mandate and fulfil the role expected of us. In so doing, and in answer to Yascha Mounk's questions posed above, we engender a Jewish community diverse in its opinion yet united in its support.

Our strategy of engaging, educating and empowering has yielded great results and we have created a significant amount of bridging social capital both within the community and outside. This allows us to dissolve differences and to be extremely effective.

Five new members of the Board will be elected by public ballot, the digital election of which opens on 11 August and ends on 31 August 2022. A further ten members will be elected by delegates of our affiliated organisations at our AGM on 18 September. This will present us with a new Board made up of 15 members, to serve for two years (2022-2024) and to be announced on 22 September 2022. Get involved with your communal democracy to make sure your voice is represented around our Board table.

Find out more at
www.capesajbd.org/elections-2022/



Know your Board

Each month we shine a spotlight on two individuals who make up our Board! After all, they are there to represent you and ensure your voice is heard when engaging with leading figures in the political, media and administrative spheres. Each month, two Board members will answer a series of questions that shed light on their reasons for serving on the Board, and their response to key issues relevant to our community. So, keep an eye out, and get to know your Board!

Rael Kaimowitz

Why did you join the Board?

My communal involvement began when I joined the Community Security Organisation (CSO) after leaving school. Over the years I formed a close working relationship with the leadership of the Cape SA Jewish Board of Deputies. It felt like a natural progression to join the Board as the objectives of the two organisations are so similar.



What do you hope to achieve during your term of office?

As an immediate past-Chair, I serve currently in an ex-officio position. I hope I have been able to be a voice of balance, reason and perspective around the table and a resource to the current members and leadership.

What other community organisations are you involved in?

I have been involved in many community organisations over the years, spanning multiple sectors in our community. I was a member and operational chair of the CSO for many years. This gave the basis for viewing the community holistically and interacting across all spectrums of it. During that time I was also involved in the Young Adult Division (YAD) of the United Jewish Campaign and chaired their fundraising subcommittee. YAD focussed on fundraising and networking in the 25-45 year age group.

I was privileged to be selected as a fellow of the Nahum Goldman Fellowship, an international programme for Jewish Leadership. Through my involvement with this unique body, I assisted in holding the first international fellowship in South Africa as well as incubating the idea of a regional mini-fellowship along with other alumni in Cape Town. The Nahum Goldman Fellowship falls under the umbrella of The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, on whose board of governors I now serve. I have previously served on the committee of Ohr Somayach and currently serve as a board member of the Phyllis Jowell Jewish Day School, which my two sons attend.

What are your passions?

Family and Padel of course! But I assume you mean communally?! I am passionate about creating the environment in which our community can operate and thrive. I have chosen to focus my energies largely on organisations like the Board, the CSO and the UJC that are umbrella in nature — enablers of other organisations, shuls or schools to focus on their objectives and mandates. I have always enjoyed this bird's eye, high-level view of our community. I enjoy bringing people from different perspectives around the same table to engage with each other even if we have divergent views on things. This is a sign of a healthy, functioning community.

What is your vision for the community?

Our communal forefathers were astute in setting up structures and facilities that would serve our community from cradle to grave, and be the envy of other communities around the world. My vision is that, despite changes in demographics and the challenges we face as a community and country, we continue to offer these and other improved services in a more streamlined fashion in line with global best practices and our changing needs.

What do you think is unique about our Jewish community?

No community of our size around the world can boast the breadth of service and offerings that we provide members of our community. The passion of our lay and professional leadership in safeguarding existing structures while at the same time innovating and improving them is exemplary. We should acknowledge the foundation we have and not take it for granted.

David King

Why did you join the Board?

The community has always been in my blood. My family have been very fortunate to benefit from the great work of many of the affiliates over the years. Giving back and contributing to the community has been instilled in me by my family members as well as by the many communal leaders I have worked with over the years. After several years of serving on the executive of CSO, the natural progression was to join the umbrella body of the community.



What do you hope to achieve during your term of office?

Having served on the Board since 2007 I have sat on many subcommittees. During that time I have been involved in trying to grow and promote young leaders. I currently chair the Country Communities subcommittee — working with the leaders and members of these smaller communities and ensuring their Jewish identity in these small towns, is not only extremely rewarding but important for the well-being of all Jews in the Western Cape. Going forward, trying to find innovative ways of growing the Cape Jewish Community is essential and offering the Cape as an alternative to Jews from other cities is an area of focus I hope to be part of.

What other community organisations are you involved in?

My communal journey started as a volunteer for the CSO. As time progressed I worked my way to the executive, holding the position of treasurer for a number of years. I was involved in resurrecting WP Maccabi some years back, which I am pleased to see continues to grow with a large Cape contingent attending this year's Maccabiah. I have also sat on the local Board of Afrika Tikkun. I was a graduate of the UJC's P2K leadership programme in 2006, which culminated with a conference in Beit Shemesh with young leaders from across the globe. Outside the community, I have also sat on the executive of NGOs.

What are your passions?

I am crazy about sport and have been fortunate enough to travel to some of the leading stadiums to watch incredible events. Until recently I was incredibly passionate about my running; however, an unfortunate accident has temporarily hindered that. I am however motivated and committed to getting back to my previous levels. My family and friends play an incredible role in my life and spending time with them provides great satisfaction. Finally, I am driven to uplift people, especially those at work and others around me. I am a firm believer that we should all strive to improve.

What is your vision for the community?

Like any Jewish community around the world, we have challenges. We have an ageing and shrinking community but yet live in one of the most beautiful parts of the country and the world. Offering the Cape as an alternative to emigration needs to be considered. Having the correct blend of experienced and young leaders, and making tough leadership decisions is going to be essential to the sustainability of the community going forward. We have a resilient community and I remain optimistic about it!

What do you think is unique about our Jewish community?

We have a wide, diverse and unique offering to Jews for a community of our size. Our institutions, organisations and structures built by past and current lay and professional leaders are world-class. Our community is spoken about in high regard, for its ability to care for and look after each other while keeping the Jewish light burning bright.

The power of youth

By Craig Nudelman

The Cape SAJBD has many initiatives that engage the youth. In honour of this Youth Day, it hosted two events on 12 June to celebrate our youth and ensure that we are building our Jewish and South African youth communities.

Youth Day commemorates the Soweto Uprising on 16 June 1976, where thousands of high school students in Soweto walked out of their schools. This was to protest the amendments to the Bantu Education Act, including Afrikaans as a compulsory medium of instruction in black educational facilities. At Orlando Stadium they were met with the full force of the South African police force, who opened fire on the assembled students, killing an estimated 176 students, including 13-year-old Hector Pieteron; the iconic photo of him being held by his sister and cousin representing the Soweto uprising taken by Sam Nzima from *The World* newspaper. The Soweto uprising was one of the most important events in South African history and paved the way for ending apartheid and racial segregation.

Our first event was a collaboration with the author of *Goodnight Golda*, Batya Bricker where mothers and daughters were invited to attend a self-awareness journaling workshop on the book, which focuses on brave and mighty Jewish women, past and present, who can inspire us all. *Goodnight Golda* details the stories of 32 Jewish women who shaped Jewish history and challenged societal norms about women. With innovative techniques, Batya guided the group to find their own journey to become young heroes in their own right and challenge the status quo. Girls got to take a copy of *Goodnight Golda* home to explore how each lesson could empower them in their own lives.

Our second event was an interfaith youth event focusing on environmental issues. Fifteen learners from the Jewish, Muslim, and Christian faiths were hosted at the Groote Kerk Centrum. Facilitated by Reverend Berry Behr of the Southern African Faith Communities' Environment Institute (SAFCEI), the



Jewish, Muslim, and Christian learners with Imam Salieg Isaacs (Muslim Judicial Council), Reverend Berry Behr (SAFCEI) and Craig Nudelman (Cape SAJBD) at the Youth Interfaith Environment Dialogue

learners were given the opportunity to actively engage with how they can combat the climate challenges we face in South Africa. After brainstorming the current concerns that they have within their own communities, they came up with fascinating insights as to how to tackle climate change. At the end of the session, they came up with a manifesto to share with their peers, families, schools and communities. Beginning with the words, "We, young people of faith, commit to helping our planet to become greener", their 18-point plan was inspirational to see. This could not have been made possible without the help of Imam Salieg Isaacs from the Muslim Judicial Council.

Our youth are not to be taken for granted. They challenge what we know, create what is not there, and look to the future. Let us not only celebrate them on Youth Day but every day.



Learners from different faiths present on environmental issues within South Africa



Batya Bricker speaks to group of Herzlia Grade 6 pupils and their moms. Inset picture: Batya's book, *Goodnight Golda*



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- Small soft toys

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Celebrating coexistence and the Morocco-Israel Abraham Accords



SAZF CC Executive Director Chaya Singer met with the first Israeli Ambassador to Morocco, HE Dr David Govrin, in Rabat on June 12 2020. Several issues were discussed, including the continent of Africa, the African Union and Moroccan-Israeli relations, following the Abraham Accords 2020.

SAZF Cape Council Executive Director Chaya Singer participated in the Jewish Africa Conference on 13 June, and presented on South Africa's Foreign Policy and its affect on SA Jewry.

This is the second conference organised by the Mimouna Association in partnership with the American Sefardi Federation. Ms Singer presented at the first conference held three years ago in New York, and maintains warm relationships with both organisations. This collaboration exemplifies the Moroccan model of Jewish-Muslim coexistence, and the Moroccan government's priority to preserve historical Jewish sites, acknowledging the significant Jewish contribution to Moroccan society. The conference included participation of Jewish Moroccan communal leadership and dignitaries from around Africa, and visits to religious sites in Rabat and Casablanca. Morocco normalised relations with Israel as part of the Abraham Accords in December 2020.



SAZF CC Executive Director Chaya Singer with André Azoulay, Counselor to His Majesty The King of Morocco, at the Jewish Africa Conference held in Rabat on 13 June

Yom Ha'atzmaut at the Israeli Embassy



9 June — SAZF CC Co-Chairperson Leora Hesson and Executive Director Chaya Singer with Israeli Trade Officer Amit Lev, at the Israeli Embassy in Pretoria attending a Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration, organised in partnership with the South African Zionist Federation.

SAUJS attends American Jewish Conference

By Deena Katzen



Erin Dodo and Congressman Ted Deutch at AJC Global Forum 2022

It has been a very exciting time for SAUJS nationwide as our chairpeople (including our very own Erin Dodo) attended the American Jewish Congress in New York from 12 - 14 June.

The SAUJS delegation met with other Jewish leaders from around the world. According to Erin, a highlight was an address by President Zelensky.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more details on how you too could attend future conferences like this.

SAFI meets with Christian Zionists



SAFI meeting with the Christian Zionist organization Ebenezer Operation Exodus South Africa which supports Aliya around the world; and the Israel Support Group that stands outside Parliament in Cape Town every Friday



Youth Movements roundup

Shavuot with Netzer

Netzer is thrilled to have held the kids' Shavuot sleepover at the Temple Israel synagogue, in Greenpoint.

The evening began with the annual cheesecake competition, after which we began our programme by creating bikkurim bags for charity. We decorated them and filled them with food donated by the congregation.

We planned and led a Shavuot themed *ma'amad* service with the channichimot for the congregation. It was live-streamed across the Temple Israel community. After the service, we put on a movie for everyone to enjoy before heading to bed.

We were all up bright and early the next morning, having tea and biscuits and playing outside until it was time to leave. *By Ghaim Atash*

Habonim happenings

So many things have happened, are happening and will happen in Habonim this year that we felt it best to put them all in a crossword!

Here's a brief recap with some useful hints for the crossword...

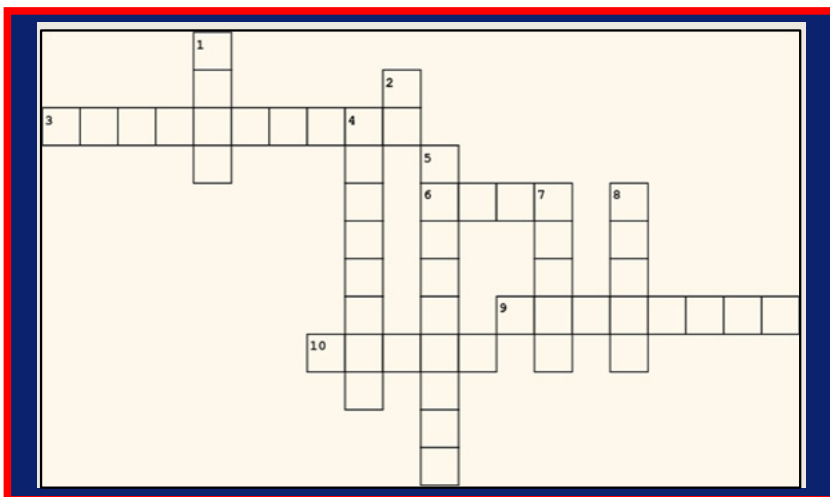
The most exciting announcement is that our dates for Machaneh have been released. This year, camp will be from 9 to 27 December. We named our Va'ad Poel (VP) — the leadership body — for machaneh, with Jesse Lees filling the role of Rosh Machaneh! We are so excited for our first camp in two years and can't wait to see our Onrus campsite filled to the brim once more.

The campsite will be filled even sooner however, from 10 to 14 July as

we are excited to welcome the Grades 3 - 9 to the campsite for Winter Camp — one of the best places to be for these holidays! Another one of the best places to be during July is Israel, where the Grade 10s and 11s (Ze'ev and Sufah) will be taken all the way across Israel for an action-packed three weeks, filled with all the vibes and *kef* that a person could hope for.

From 18 to 28 July, a delegation of our madrichimot partnered with Camp Hallelujah to help run a Machaneh in the famous city of Budapest. We are so grateful to have been allowed to do this in a foreign country, granting us the privilege of helping to inspire, educate and instil the uniqueness of Habo magic in kids from Israel, Hungary and many other countries.

Aleh V'Hagshem - Jeffrey Gutman



Across

- 3. Camp taking place 10 — 14 July
- 6. Magic
- 9. The European city that a group of our maddies visited.
- 10. The name of Rosh Machaneh for December.

Down

- 1. The name of our Grade 10s
- 2. The name of our leadership group for Machaneh
- 4. Takes place 9 — 27 December
- 5. Our trip to Israel with the Grade 10s and 11s
- 7. Where is our campsite located?
- 8. The name of our Grade 11s

[Click here for answers on page 30](#)

Bnei Akiva



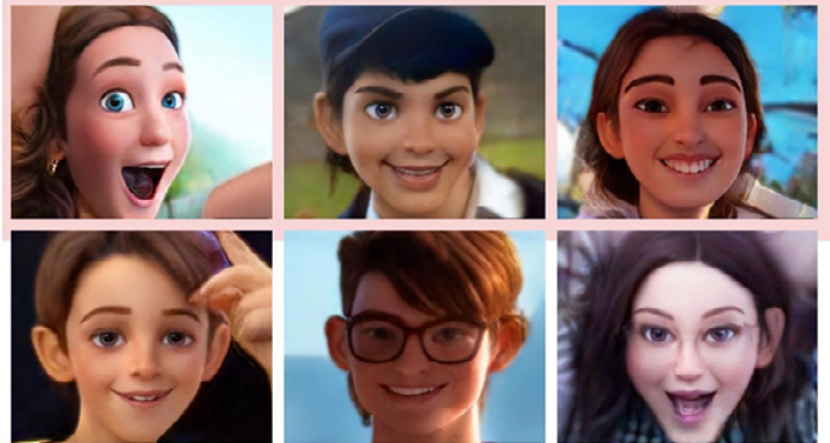
Bnei Maddies at Shabbaton in Franschoek

Our weekly events for the different Grades continue, ensuring fun-filled, meaningful and thought-provoking Tochniot.

We assist in creating the future CT leadership with our Leadership Programme Sayeret and we are very excited to take them on our Hadracha Program to Israel shortly! Thirdly, together with Morasha Shul, we were so proud of the brilliance of our joint Tikkun Leil and dinner with record breaking numbers. We've also hosted an incredible Maddies Shabbaton and Yom Yerushalayim programme. Lastly we have run the most exciting Winter Camp for our Channichim! Filled with soccer, volleyball, beach, hikes, fun and meaningful Tochniot and the shabbas experience! Thank you to all that joined and for those that were away, we hope to see you next time.

As you can see, we are putting every effort to keep the Cape Town community inspired and connected! Have a lovely June-July holiday. *By Eytan Labe*

WE TURNED OUR CHANNIES INTO CARTOON CHARACTERS. CAN YOU RECOGNISE THEM?



Quiz yourself!

1. Who is the tallest Bnei CT Channie?
2. When was Bnei Akiva founded?
3. How many times do we sing the words "Kadima Bnei Akiva" in the anthem?
4. What is the weekly Shabbat day activity at the Bayit called?
5. How many of the Maddies are vegan?
6. How often do each grade have activities with their Maddies?
7. Where is the Bnei Bayit located?
8. What name is most common in Bnei CT?
9. What are the three leading values of Bnei Akiva?

THINK YOU KNOW THE ANSWERS?? [CLICK TO SEND TO AYELET](#) OR TEXT 0832253713 — AND YOU MIGHT WIN SOME CRUMBS AND CREAM!!

JUST LIKE ANY WONDERFUL (*SOMETIMES SLIGHTLY DYSFUNCTIONAL) FAMILY...



Benji Anstey, Head Boy of Herzlia, and the lead role in the UJC 2022 educational video.



Yvette Rosenberg, dog mom, jam doughnut lover and Events Coordinator at the South African Zionist Federation.



Warren Gnesin, Head of Sales at Cape Town Lodge Hotel, and Jean Gnesin, General Manager at Aviocean Cape Town, with their most important roles: loving dads to 2 wonderful children!

The Cape Town Jewish community is a generous, socially conscious community. A community made up of diverse points of views, interesting and passionate characters, and a whole lot of food. There are differences in observances and affiliations, standpoints regarding Israel, and many other reasons to disagree... just like any wonderful (*sometimes slightly dysfunctional) family.

Driven by the need to educate the community about the UJC's work, the crucial organisations we support, and the need to showcase our beautiful community diversity; Benji Anstey, Head Boy of Herzlia (and Jewish Cape Town 😊), takes us on a journey of discovery.

The informative, textured, and honest vlog style explainer video was a fresh new approach which allowed us to get creative and inspire Jewish Cape Town to be a part of a community of philanthropists. We believe that as the UJC we represent you - Jewish Cape Town. You are a part of our family and just like with family, you will always have a seat at the table. Just show up, sit down, and eat!

WATCH THE UJC 2022 [VIDEO HERE](#)

City Coins

CAPE TOWN



NUMISMATICS AND COLLECTABLES

Sole South African representative for Dix, Noonan, Webb (London)

Natalie Jaffe F.S.A.N.S.

Tel: 021 426 2639 Fax: 021 425 3939

nataliejaffe@citycoins.co.za www.citycoins.com

Ground Floor, Tulbagh Centre, Tulbagh Square, Hans Strijdom Avenue, Foreshore, Cape Town



Herzlia excels in the Horizons Maths Olympiad

Four Herzlia Primary pupils made the prestigious Top 100 mathematicians in the Horizons Maths Olympiad.

A fantastic achievement considering the magnitude of the competition — over 74 000 pupils nationwide and 21 000 from 158 schools in the Western Cape. Kol Hakavod!



Weizmann Primary Principal, Anton Krupenia, with (left) Isaac Frankel (48th) and (right) Luca Dobrin (16th)



Highlands Primary Principal, Mike Ford, with (left) Yoni Shneur (57th place and the Top Achiever Award winner) and (right) Leiv Chait Ramsay (71st)

New Station Commander for NSRI Table Bay



In June this year 38-year-old Herzlia alumnus Robyn Silverstone was elected Station Commander for NSRI Table Bay.

Her involvement with the National Sea Rescue Institute began at the age of 16. After a gemilut chasidim project at school, she joined the organisation as a trainee, progressing up the ranks to crew and then a Class 3 coxswain.

When asked who and what helped her to progress to her current position, she acknowledges her late mother, “I think the support from her in my early years as a trainee allowed me to keep progressing as a trainee. She would drive me to training on the weekend and during the week along with taking me to call-outs. Without that dedication from her to my growth at Sea Rescue, I would never have completed the tasks and hours to become crew”.

Asked what she loves about it, she replied, “The people, helping others in need, constantly learning and challenging myself. Being able to enable and empower within Sea Rescue,” and adds, “Time is quite tough as a volunteer to manage it around work and personal life. So you need to put the extra effort into it.”

Robyn advises others who want to get involved, “It’s an extremely rewarding organisation. If you have time to give and are wanting to learn new skills to save lives on South African waters, then the world is your oyster. You’ll be a trainee for roughly a year and then you build your experience as a crew once qualified.”

Two other Herzlians who hold senior positions in the NSRI are Luke Van Riet, Station Commander, and David Rosenberg, Deputy Station Commander, both at Bakoven.



PRAS: Telfed's Unique Programme for Olim & Students

“A year ago, I met Rivka and the bond between us was immediate. Rivka made Aliyah with her family from South Africa three years ago and over the year that I’ve volunteered with her we have formed a special connection. Her family followed their dream to live in Israel, the home of the Jewish people, leaving behind their familiar and comfortable life to make their dream a reality. I can see the challenges they face with learning a new language, getting used to the Israeli mentality, creating new friendships and feeling a part of a community. I look up to them because they didn’t let fear guide them, and even though they knew Aliyah wasn’t always going to be easy, they followed their dream. They have welcomed me into their family and they are my inspiration!”



- Lior Hassine, Telfed PRAS Student

Telfed offers an exceptional scholarship programme for Israeli students (with priority given to students of South African origin). PRAS focuses on the successful absorption & integration of Olim, adding an additional layer of support for families, those with special needs & the elderly. If you are making Aliyah, remember to register as a PRAS client & join the Telfed PRAS family!

● REGISTRATION OPENS
FROM 15 JUNE TO
31 AUGUST 2022.
WWW.TELFED.ORG.IL/PRAS ●

Over 500 students were recipients of Telfed Scholarships for the 2021-2022 academic year.



**JEWISH
COMMUNITY
SERVICES**
CAPE TOWN



www.jcs.org.za

JCS@WORK

Gorge Road - Communal Living in a Jewish Group Home

Rhita Russon
Social Worker

Jewish Community Service's answer to the call for a psychiatric group home for members of the community living with a mental illness, has now come to life. The official opening of our home took place with a mezuzah ceremony attended by members of the Rabbinical Association and JCS Executive Committee.

The first group of residents have officially moved into the home, nine residents with three more due to move in by the middle of the year.

The home is managed by Jody, our house mother and assisted by Connie, our carer. The aim of the home is to provide individual case management, group work, a work programme, community development programmes, as well as a comfortable recreational space.

The homely atmosphere that has been created by the residents gives each one a place to stay in a warm and nurturing

environment. Shabbat dinners are eaten together, surprise birthday picnics are arranged, meals are cooked together, cakes are baked for celebrations and other special simcha's are celebrated together.

Regular group outings are arranged ensuring a variety of interests are covered. This past month saw our residents unleash their creative side with a visit to The Clay Cafe and for a leisurely stroll on the Sea Point Promenade to enjoy the last of the summer sunshine.

Our goal for the home is to assist and develop residents that have never lived independently before or that require living assistance. We focus on a therapeutic strength-based model, identifying and evaluating each resident's unique abilities and strengths. These are then incorporated

within the household, encouraging a sense of ownership of their home.

Daily routines help the residents stay focused and creates a sense of security and familiarity. Because of the different age groups, we aim to do lots of fun and interactive things together, creating a sense of belonging and increasing social interaction. This builds confidence and inspires residents to get to know each other, thus promoting compassion and leading to a strong support system. We aim to gradually move towards a new age of residential care where residents move on when they feel they are equipped with the necessary life skills to navigate the ever-changing road of life.

For more information contact the JCS office on **021 462 5520** or email rhita@jcs.org.za

"We aim to gradually move towards a new age of residential care where residents move on when they feel they are equipped with the necessary life skills to navigate the ever-changing road of life."



Rabbi Matthew Liebenberg and **Paul Berman** (JCS Chairman) affix the mezuzah to the front doorpost of the new Gorge Road home.



Gorge Road - Jewish Community Services' new accommodation provides communal living in a Jewish group home environment. The homely atmosphere that has been created by the residents gives each one a place to stay in a warm and nurturing environment.

#JewishCommunity #GroupHomes #AssistedLiving



Consider This

Learning with and from Rabbi Sofia

By Rabbi Greg Alexander

There are rare moments in a congregation's life that are a reflection of where they stand.

For Temple Israel, these include a meaningful anniversary (we are going to be 80 years old soon), the passing of our founding rabbinical couple (the Sherman legacy lives on strongly), the installation of a member of the rabbinic team (we now have three full-time rabbis, one part-time and one student rabbi) or the opening of a new building (West Coast is our newest physical building and our online shul was launched in 2020 in response to COVID-19 and continues



Rabbi Sofia Zway

to be a gateway for many to connect with our services).

Last month we saw another one of these defining moments. Rabbi Sofia Zway was ordained as a rabbi at Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, and I got to stand beside her representing our congregation with so much pride and naches. It represented, in many ways, who we are as a community.

Firstly, the importance of ongoing study. Rabbi Sofia is someone who has grown up in the South African Progressive movement, been a leader in Netzer, a teacher in our cheder, and throughout her five years of study in America maintained a close relationship with the community here. She and her husband Rabbi Brett Kopin chose to have their Chuppah in Cape Town last year, and we have all rejoiced in her life's progression to now serving the Jewish people as Rav. And as our community continues to grow in number, may we grow in our thirst for learning too.

Secondly, the contribution that each

and every member can make to our community. Rabbi Sofia is not the first woman to get smicha, and she is part of a growing number of woman rabbis serving around the world. We have Rabbi Emma and Student Rabbi Andi here in Cape Town, and as we grow, we pray that number will grow too. More importantly we have worked to create a community where any member of any gender, age, orientation, race, whether born Jewish or chosen it, who chooses to take on the responsibility of leadership, can and should. As we see members of our community step up to be lay leaders, teachers, Jewish professionals, cantors and rabbis, we ensure the spiritual growth of our community.

Thirdly, the centrality of rabbinic leadership. As much as the Jewish world has changed in the past 2000 years, we still look to our rabbis and rabbinic teachings for guidance. According to tradition this connects us back to the original revelation at



Rabbi Greg sharing words of wisdom at Rabbi Sofia's ordination in Los Angeles.

Sinai, and for sure it connects us — vertically to our teachers of the past upon whose shoulders we stand, and horizontally to the rabbis around the world who give their energy and passion to teaching Torah.

Wherever Rabbi Sofia gives her time and energy as a Rav (we hope we will have the chance to have her and her husband working in Cape Town one day), we know she will bring the values and spirit of Temple Israel to the people she inspires.

Mazal tov to her and to our whole community.

A vibrant Shavuot night

Shavuot was celebrated in person this year and what a wonderful night it was!

World Union for Progressive Judaism President Rabbi Sergio Bergman joined us as we brought back the old favourite cheesecake competition, and introduced a panel discussion *How do you Jew*, and Jonathan Ancer's recently published book *Mensches in the Trenches*. These supplemented the evening service and delicious dinner. Attendance was fantastic, and we thank all who helped make it so wonderful.

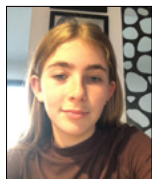


Glenda Kruss van der Heever in conversation with Steven Isacowitz (Zok), Erica Elk and Jonathan Ancer about Jonathan's new book *Mensches in the Trenches*.



Congratulations to our cheesecake winner Ali Smuts-Simons

Mazaltov to last month's Bnei Mitzvah!



Micha Danilewitz
9 June



Tristan Brunton
25 June

Connecting with Rabbi Sergio and connecting with the world

Many of our leaders and congregants enjoyed the opportunity to hear and meet with Rabbi Sergio Bergman.

Rabbi Sergio is president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ), and visited South Africa as the guest of the South African Union for Progressive Judaism for its biennial conference. Rav Sergio has a fascinating life story. As a child of Shoah survivors, he studied biochemistry and pharmacology at university and later got his smicha as a Rabbi. He became the first rabbi appointed as a government minister in Argentina, and is a close friend of his landsman Pope Francis.



Rabbi Sergio eagerly participating in our annual cheesecake competition



Jeanne Livingstone and Diana Sochen with Rabbi Sergio Bergman

While in Cape Town, he gave a series of *divrei Torah* over Shabbat and Shavuot, showing his deep spirituality and gift of translating complicated concepts into everyday words. He also experienced our unique annual cheesecake competition. We took the opportunity to connect Temple Israel with the global community via the first online *Shavuot Across the World* tikkun leil with people logging in from all over to hear our Cape Town speakers.

It was a wonderful way to be reminded that even though we might think we are tucked away at the foot of the African continent, we are part of a global Jewish network of over 1 million members and of course of global Jewry.



Highlands House
Aged Residential Care for Our Community

Ensuring residents' safety

On Thursday, 26 May, Highlands House proved its commitment to the physical safety of its residents and the safety protocols of the Home by hosting the first successful Emergency Evacuation Simulation in its history.

The process took place between 11am and 1pm, and was aimed at assessing the Home's readiness to handle an emergency evacuation, demonstrating its staff's ability to assist in emergencies after fire safety training in 2021; and identifying any snags in the system, procedures

and protocols that could hinder a safe and successful evacuation. Additionally, the simulation provided a sense of the speed and safety with which residents who require mobility assistance could evacuate in a real-life scenario.

No residents participated in the simulation. Instead, Consultmech Mechanical Engineers, who have guided our fire safety improvements around the Home, led our management and staff in simulating an emergency. They were joined by 50 student volunteers from United Herzlia Schools, three teachers, and volunteers from CSO to complete

the simulation. The Herzlia students took the role of residents facing an emergency — some with mobility concerns — and occupied the third-floor rooms and corridors when fire alarms sounded at 11:30. The staff, teachers and CSO volunteers took the role of fire marshals, guiding the 'residents' in a safe evacuation from the third floor to the assembly point outside the Home's main entrance on Gorge Road. Consultmech engineer Hanzel Roux directed the process, assigned roles and managed and monitored the alarm systems and timing of evacuation. He gave a safety talk to all volunteers at the assembly point afterwards.

Executive Director of Highlands House, Dr Leon Geffen, thanked the students, teachers and volunteers for their time and effort in ensuring the safety of our residents should an emergency ever call for evacuation.

"It is our board, management and staff's priority to ensure our fire safety practices, procedures and equipment are up to code. Thank you to the staff fire marshals, CSO volunteers and United Herzlia Schools for participating in this simulation, providing us with insight as we work to improve and perfect our safety protocols. Your efforts today could save lives in the future."



Herzlia students volunteering as 'residents' gather at the assembly point as part of the drill.



Engineer Hanzel Roux gives feedback to volunteers and fire marshals after the drill.



Dr Leon Geffen addresses the Herzlia students who volunteered.

July birthdays

We wish all our residents who celebrate another year around the sun this July, a Happy Birthday. May your day be spent celebrating the warmth, joy and love you bring to those around you.

- 1st Linda Sparks
- 2nd Lily Kessler
- 3rd Ruth Huxham
- 5th Anita Goldman, Bertha Barenblatt and Helga Green
- 7th Anne-Joy Perel and Mary Silberman
- 10th Elton Joffe
- 12th Mary Brandon
- 13th Jhudith le Chat
- 15th Cynthia Cohen
- 20th Moira Seligman and Zvi Itzikovitz
- 22nd Pauline Swartzman
- 23rd Johan Heymann
- 28th Eleanore Bloch and Rebecca Herman
- 31st Esmée Marks



Highlands House
Aged Residential Care for Our Community



Highlands House is under construction
Building our future. New Memory Care Unit opening 2023



Cape Jewish Seniors Association

DIRECTOR: Diana Sochen 021 434 9691 director@cjsa.org.za ADMIN: Amanda 021 434 9691 admin@cjsa.org.za search CJSA on Facebook

CJSA – your home away from home

Nothing pleases me more when I go into one of our centres to see a group of our members and guests enjoying themselves.

Usually the noise level greets you as you move towards the door, which in itself is like an endorphin, lifting my soul tremendously. During the past month we have held a number of functions which have been thoroughly enjoyed and well supported, and hopefully this will continue in the months ahead.

However CJSA is not only there for activities, outings and socialising. Our social worker team provides a variety of specialised services for those needing them.

Psychological and psychosocial intervention of our members with counselling services are increasing, especially since our centres have

reopened. Prior to Covid-19, our social workers often had to invite those whom they deemed in need of intervention, to engage with them for counselling. However isolation has created and exacerbated many insecurities and all sorts of health issues, compounded by lack of exercise and decreased mental stimulation. Since reopening, we are finding that more often, members are approaching our team to request these types of services. Should we have clients who are unwilling to come to the center to engage with one of our social workers, telephonic or Zoom counselling is offered.

Many of our members have children and grandchildren, and there are often occasions that intervention is needed for one reason or another; thus assistance is not only for our members, we also provide family support and multigenerational support when necessary.

CJSA social workers meet regularly to engage, to monitor and to evaluate those we counsel; and to provide advice for intervention wherever necessary. We are often the link

to other resources offered in our community, as well as the wider Cape Town. We work closely with all the Jewish Welfare groups to ensure that we prevent overlapping of services and to ensure that the best possible services are offered to those who require them. We actively engage in advocacy and lobbying for the rights of the aged.

We also ensure food security for our members. Those needing assistance regularly receive food parcels. We continue to educate our members with presentations on all aspects of healthcare, encouraging everyone to take charge of their own health, medication needs and intervention by their doctors when necessary. All our support is person-centred, allowing members to lead and make important decisions enabling them to live their best lives.

We encourage and urge all members of our community to visit us personally or to view our activities on our Facebook page. There is no reason for anyone to be lonely or alone when everyone can be part of CJSA. There certainly must be

something of interest each week to encourage your attendance at any one of our centres scattered around Cape Town.

Even though we all do things differently, we all want to live well. Being a member of CJSA makes this possible because our team really work incredibly hard to see that each member has the opportunity to live their best life, engage and laugh often whilst being active, and enjoy outings with the opportunity to make, renew and build on friendships whenever possible.

Life

Is a choice between Ageing and Growing.

Ageing adds years to life and Growing adds life to years

So live your life and forget your age.

Hope that the month will be a good one for each and every one.

Diana Sochen
Executive Director

Social and Personal

We congratulate our members who have celebrated joyous occasions during the last month.

Births:

Barbara Kahn – granddaughter.
Wilfred Mirkin
– great-granddaughter

Batmitzvah:

Henny Bernstein – great granddaughter
Roy and Vonny Bernstein
– granddaughter
Rabbi and Rebbetzin Bernstein
– niece

Engagement:

Alec and Thelma Cohen
– granddaughter

Marriage:

Wilfred and Glickie Bloom
– granddaughter

Les Vides – granddaughter

Special Birthday wishes:

Solly Gutman – 80, Ruth Katzeff – 95 and Fay Abrahams – 88

Anniversary:

Adele and Bernard Saven – 50

Welcome to new members:

Colette Brownell and Livia Grodentzick

Wishes of strength to those who are not well and Refua Shlemah:

Den Bernstein, Edie Busch, Sokkie Cohen, Harry Epstein and Pam Koonin

Our deepest sympathy to the family of members who have recently passed away:

Rita Blum (Mother of Estelle Tait),
Brenda Madeisky (Mother of Ida Fay Mervis)

Recent outings and activities



Sea Point members enjoying the Company Gardens



Author Angela Rothbart, Rebecca Bryer and Henia Bryer at the Sea Point launch of Angela's book, The Lightness of Air



Sheila Aronstam and Henia Bryer at the book launch in Sea Point



Fay Shagam and Joan Susi Summerfield and Shirley Kellner enjoying a visit to Philadelphia



Fay Shagam and Joan Matzner at Milnerton enjoying the morning with Bridges for Peace



Freda Farkis teaching Rosemary Magid and June Hayman to play bridge in Sea Point



Southern Suburbs members enjoying a morning in Stellenbosch



Sea Point members enjoying a visit to Philadelphia



Arona Katz, Candice Eden of Bridges for Peace, Jennifer Gordon and Debbie Epstein



West Coast members visiting Highlands House

Salisbury House
Small School - big ideas
SCHOOL ADMISSION OPEN 2022/3
www.salisburyhouse.co.za

YOUR CHILD DESERVES THE BEST EDUCATION

Does your child feel lost or anxious in a big class? Do they learn at a different rate to their peers? Would they benefit from one-on-one interactions with their teacher every day? If your answer is yes to any of these questions, then Salisbury House is for your child!

- INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLAN**
Each student has an individual Education Plan based on the Western Cape Education Department CAPS curriculum
- 1:10 TEACHER TO STUDENT RATIO**
Classes have a maximum of ten children to one teacher, ensuring individual attention throughout the day
- CREATIVE LEARNING**
Different learning styles are used throughout the day, with each child's strengths and challenges kept in mind.

FOR MORE INFO:
5 Salisbury Rd, Kenilworth Cape Town
www.salisburyhouse.co.za
info@salisburyhouse.co.za



Shavuot at Rosecourt

Rosecourt residents spent time together enjoying festive meals and delicious dairy desserts.



Forever young at 94

Marcia Orlin celebrated her 94th birthday at Coffee Time amongst friends and family.

After retiring as a teacher from Vera School for autistic children at age 65, she joined Astra as a volunteer. Her multi-talents and creativity have been an integral part of the organisation, and she remained a dedicated volunteer until lockdown. The inspiring life story of this remarkable woman has been chronicled on the SABC programme *Forever Young*. [Watch here.](#)



SA JEWS OF LITHUANIAN & POLISH HERITAGE ARE ELIGIBLE TO OBTAIN EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP & EU PASSPORT

A common misconception people have is that European citizenship and EU Passport can only be obtained if one has documents proving lineage. **The fact is that not having documents proving lineage, does not lead to your disqualification of eligibility.**

In many cases the required documents can be obtained in the European country of origin!



Having European citizenship offers more than one benefit, besides the fact that it makes traveling far easier than with a South African passport...

As we are all fully aware of the current situation in South Africa where we face many uncertainties not just for today but for our children's future too.

While we are still having it relatively good here. We know that the time will come where as Jews we will look for alternative options. **Then having a**

The most important thing to take into consideration is understanding that prior to the end of WWII, the European map was very different from the one we know today.

Countries like Poland and Lithuania did not exist as independent countries, and till 1918 these territories were only known as Lithuanian or Polish regions/countries of the Great Russia Empire who ruled all of north eastern Europe.

Until 1918 residents of these territories were of Russian citizenship – as Polish and Lithuanian citizenships did not exist. Therefore applications

European citizenship will be that tool we are looking for.

As we know, the majority of South African Jews are descendants of Jews whose European citizenship was illegally deprived, and therefore you are now entitled to reinstate it and obtain your EU passport.

for reinstatement of these citizenships can only be based on if one's ancestor was a Polish or Lithuanian citizen.

However, a descendant of an ancestor who left Europe prior to 1918 – will not be eligible.

In addition, since borders in Europe were shifted during and after WWII, one's eligibility for a Polish or Lithuanian citizenship depends on the City from which his/her ancestor lived in. Where borders shifted and cities changed nationalities Jews who left Vilnius and its region will be declined where as a similar application for reinstatement of Polish citizenship could be approved.



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

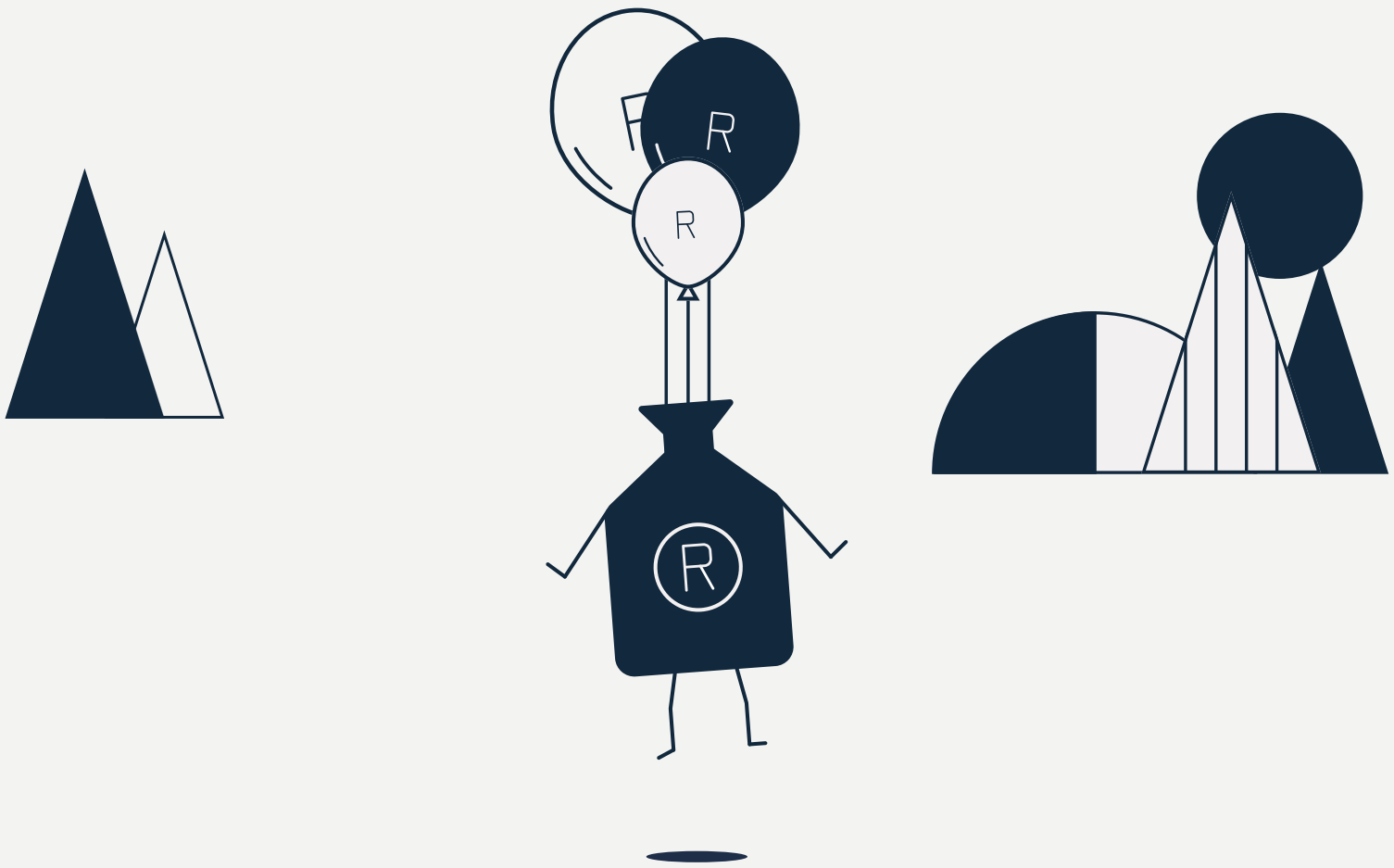
With only a 4 hour flight to Warsaw and Vilnius this enables me to arrive quickly and safely to Poland and Lithuania, where I closely collaborate with local professionals in assisting me trace required documents for your successful applications to reinstate you as an European citizen.

"Having lived in Poland for 7 years I have great in-depth understanding of European immigration laws"

I have been operating in the South African market with our Jewish communities since March 2018, and visit every 3-4 months which will allow us to meet in-person.

My next trip will be around June-July 2022.

YOU CAN REACH ME ON:
WhatsApp: +48 783 953 223,
Email: adv.avi.n. horesh@gmail.com



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Arnold Castle — a photographer's life

By Elana Castle

A lifetime resident of Cape Town, Arnold Castle (1932-2020) was considered a master portrait photographer, well-known for his black and white images of South Africans from all walks of life.

A self-taught hobbyist, Arnold first picked up a camera in the early 1970s. Discovering that he did not have the budget to produce a promotional fashion catalogue for the family-owned clothing company, Arnold reached out to his neighbour, Dick Pearce for assistance. Dick, an avid photographer, encouraged Arnold to learn the basics of the craft so that he could create his own promotional material.

Arnold enrolled in a course at the Ruth Prowse School of Art, where he learned the photographic fundamentals and was taught by some of the city's most esteemed photographers. He developed a passion for the medium, setting up a darkroom and portrait studio in his garage. He also joined the Cape Town Photographic Society, where he was inspired by the work of industry luminaries like Ted Dickinson and Dick Wittington-Jones.

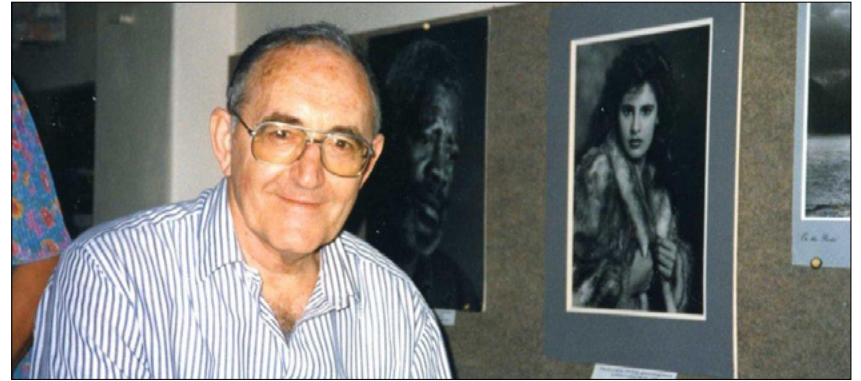
By the late 1970s, Arnold was a very active member of the Cape Town Photographic Society and the Venture Camera Club. He sought out interesting people whom he felt would make compelling character studies, and approached local street vendors, newspaper sellers and strangers that he encountered on his walks along Sea Point promenade in the hope that they'd agree to sit for portraits in his studio. On occasion, he would shoot his subjects 'unaltered'; but his style evolved into a more theatrical approach, where he created character portraits through the use of props and costuming. He also began to study the work of traditional portrait artists like Rembrandt van Rijn, whose control of light and shade was a constant source of inspiration, as well as contemporary photographers like Yousuf Karsh and Annie Leibovitz.

In 1978 Arnold achieved an Associateship of the Photographic Society of South Africa (APSSA) in monochrome prints, and in 1984 a Fellowship of the Photographic Society of South Africa (FPSSA). Further accolades and awards followed, including a gold medal from The Photographic Society of America for *The Eternal Scholar* in which Arnold dramatically transformed a working class, glass-grinding craftsman into a scholarly Rabbi.

With a number of extraordinary works in his growing repertoire, Arnold co-produced two exhibitions with his dear friend and mentor Roy Millington at The Shell Gallery. He constantly sought out new material and techniques and submitted prints to salons in South Africa and abroad. He also served as a judge on many photographic panels. For a man for whom photography was merely a "hobby"; Arnold achieved an extraordinary level of acclaim amongst his peers, whilst remaining extremely humble.

Arnold only ventured into colour when digital photography became the norm. Although well into his 70s, he was committed to learning an entirely new skill-set. His Hasselblads and Leicas were replaced with digital SLRs and the darkroom was replaced by a computer. With the help of his friends and technical whizzes Paul Meusberger and Michael Groenewald, Arnold immersed himself in the world of digital editing and manipulation, shifting genres to landscape, his other passion.

Until his passing, Arnold continued to develop his craft, producing award-winning photographs captured on his travels through South Africa and globally. He also mentored and assisted aspiring photographers, and was celebrated for imparting his acute technical knowledge and artistic advice with great generosity.



The Eternal Scholar, an exhibition of Arnold's portrait photography scheduled to open at the SA Jewish Museum in August (see page 21) brings a unique perspective to historical Cape Town through an edited collection of Arnold's character portraits. His photographs gave a human face to people on the fringes of society as well as to recognisable South Africans. His critical eye and expert technical know-how, coupled with his immaculate attention to detail in both shooting and editing, make Arnold's images as relevant and intimate as the milieus in which they were captured.

A Note from the Curator

This exhibition opens almost three years to the day that my dad suffered his first heart attack. I flew home from New York to be with him and the family. As he lay in his hospital bed back in August 2019, I asked him if I could have a look through his old work. I had many memories of my dad photographing strangers in our garage. Sometimes, my mom was given the job of sobering them up. She was very encouraging of his work! Whilst dusting off an old filing cabinet in my parents' storeroom, I discovered a very large series of portraits my dad had taken in the late 70s and 80s, which I found simply intoxicating. I realised that many had never been seen by the general public as my dad rarely shared his images with an audience beyond his closest family and friends, and the photographic societies to which he belonged. I was immediately struck by their quality and authenticity and felt that they needed to be shared. My dad was a proud Jew and he would have been delighted to have seen this project come to fruition at the South African Jewish Museum. I hope you are as moved by the stories and lives of his subjects as I am — *Elana Castle (Arnold's daughter), July 2022*

"We went on outings with the club and my interest in landscape photography grew. My eyes were opened. I began to see possible shots which I would never have noticed before. I also developed a love of portraiture and set up a studio in my garage. Just about every child in our neighbourhood was photographed by me and many still come up to me and thank me for their photos," Arnold Castle, August 2019.



Well into his 70s, Arnold ventured into colour, embracing the medium of digital photography and the genre of landscape.

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Sanktuarium Films sweeps up awards at Silwerskerm festival for *Leemtes en Leegheid* (aka *A Void*)

By Leila Stein

Local filmmakers Jordy Sank and Gabriella Blumberg have yet again scooped up awards for their latest film — this time for a deeply moving short fiction *Leemtes en Leegheid* (aka *A Void*).

Along with co-producer Samantha Pelteret and co-writer Terence Makapan, the team won Best Short Film, Audience Choice and Best Script for their film *Leemtes en Leegheid* at the kykNET Silwerskerm Film Festival. The festival celebrates and awards Afrikaans films.

“It’s a festival that we’ve always aspired to part of, but we really did not expect the awards. It was amazing to be there in person,” says Gabriella.

“To win the audience award is just great because you’re making the film for audiences. No matter their film literacy, you want it to connect with people. So to win an audience award shows that you’re resonating with people. Then to win the Jury Award for Best Short Film shows that film critics and industry professionals value the filmmaking techniques. So it’s amazing to have both of those wins in the same night,” she says.

Exploring grief and loneliness

The story follows Magdaleen, played by the incomparable South African actor Lida Botha. She is an elderly woman who is struggling to deal with the loss of her husband, shutting herself in her apartment. We follow Magdaleen as she comes to terms with her reality, and attempts to accept it.

The premise first came to Jordy when talking to Ella Blumenthal, the subject of their previous award winning documentary film *I am Here*, as she discussed her own experience of losing her husband in the early 90s.

“The storyline for our film really is what do you do when the love of your life, with whom you’ve spent 50 or 60 years of your life, passes away. It’s a really difficult life change to deal with. That’s where the concept really came from. This one was really about an exploration of grief and loss and learning to accept it,” explains Jordy.

“I think, unfortunately, loss and losing loved ones is just something that is inevitable for all of us. No matter if it’s a spouse, another family member or a dear friend, we’ve all felt loss and we all are going to feel it. So I think it’s really such a pertinent theme and I think what it really does, is it offers a window into Magdaleen’s world as she tries to cope with her loss and ultimately learns to deal with it.”

The reflection on grief was specifically apt because the film was shot during the deeper part of the COVID-19 lockdown in Cape Town.



At the award ceremony, the team: Gabriella Blumberg (producer), Esther Badenhorst (editor), Jordy Sank (director, co-writer) and Terence Makapan (co-writer)

“We were shooting during COVID and it was a time when everyone globally was grappling with grief, and also with isolation and the fear of leaving one’s home to interact again with the real world,” explains Gabriella.

“We hope that this film will bring support, comfort and closure to those who are experiencing feelings of grief and isolation,” she says.

Inspired by a South African great

In addition to being in Afrikaans, the film references renowned Afrikaans poet Ingrid Jonker — with specific reference to the poem *Jy het my gesterf*.

Explaining how they came to this text as a foundation for the film, Jordy explains that it happened by chance.

“Terrence and I were just looking for ideas, and when you’re working on the story, you kind of talk like your character quite a lot. We would be like okay, what would they be doing, what would they be reading, what kind of things would they be into? We did a vast search for the kind of poetry that our character might be reading and we stumbled upon the Ingrid Jonker poem. Just reading it and seeing the translation of that poem — it really just became an anchor for the entire film, because the whole film is really about this deep, deep loss that someone feels after losing someone who meant so much to them,” says Jordy.

“Also, just exploring a little bit more about Ingrid Jonker

and delving deep into her life, she lived quite a complicated life. There was so much angst, dread and isolation, and this feeling of loneliness that she had in her own life. So much so that she actually landed up walking into the ocean at Three Anchor Bay and drowning herself. Her poem became an anchor to our story and paralleled what Magdaleen was really feeling and going through,” he explains.

Onwards and upwards

Following their success at Silwerskerm, *Leemtes en Leegheid* is on its way to the independent film festival *Dances with Films 2022* in Los Angeles.

In addition, both Jordy and Gabriella have been chosen as *Talents Durban* participants. The project, hosted by Durban FilmMart Institute chooses a select group for a six-week mentorship experience with film professionals to further boost young film talent and provide a pathway for participants to present their films to an international market.

Leemtes en Leegheid is expected to be released on Showmax. All updates on viewings can be found at [Sanktuarium Films](#).



Shooting during COVID required masterful use of shots to make one apartment seem like two with varying styles.



A still from the film, with Magdaleen (Lida Botha) and her husband (Johan Botha)



Behind the scenes, Terence and Jordy shooting with Lida Botha and Ivan Abraham

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TEAM MACCABI SOUTH AFRICA 2022

We are delighted to announce our team for the 2022 Maccabi Games taking place in Israel in July. Maccabi SA has a very successful record at the Games and we are confident that this talented and competitive team will once again make South Africa proud.

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TEAM MANAGEMENT

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Head of Delegation: Farrell Cohen
Head of Games Committee: Rosalynne Goldin
Sports Director, Maccabi SA: Jarred Gronemann
Sports Director, Maccabi WP: Saul Jackson
Junior Managers: Jared Poulton; Daniella Sher
Medical Team: Dr Brad Gelbart; Dr Ethel Barsky; Daniel Sauer (manager)
 Physiotherapists: Adam Speechly; Anthony Mofsowitz; Darryn Edinburg; Jason Cohen; Johan van Wyk (rugby); Petra Zikmann; Shira Kruger

CHESS

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OPEN: Jacob Berman

CRICKET

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Convenor: Joanne Tankle
Coach: Matthew Townshend
Captain: Joshua Jacobs
Vice-captain: David Teeger
 Benjamin Bernstein
 Benjamin Stone
 Dean Hackner
 Dovi Porter
 Ethan Greenstein
 Ethan Werb
 Giyan Sulcas
 Jacob Sacks
 Jamie Gronemann
 Jamie Meyersfeld
 Jordan Gamsy
 Jordan Meyers
 Nathan Beswick

OPENS
Coach: Barney Girnun
Manager: Riley Freeman
Captain: Matt Rosen
 Adam Lazarus
 Benjamin Lazarus
 Benji Schaffer
 Benji Gruskin
 Daniel Poulton
 Gabriel Gad
 Gavin Kaplan
 Joshua Lang
 Lee Gruskin
 Saul Anstey
 Wayne Josselson
 Yoni Fingleson

CYCLING

JUNIOR: Ryan Isserow

FOOTBALL

U16 TEAM
Convenor: Darryn Edinburg
Head Coach: Miguel Dos Santos
Coach: Peter Twigg
Captain: Lupemba Fisher
Vice-captains: Seth Sklar; Daniel Waisman
 Adam Selikow
 Alexand Franco
 Daniel Miller
 Eitan Lewis
 Gavriel Ben-David
 Jacob Lever
 Joshua Bayhack
 Joshua Uria
 Judd Suckerman
 Jude Orbach
 Mathew Freed
 Noah Brasg
 Sammy Kotzin

FUTSAL

Convenor: Saul Jackson

U16 TEAM

Co-Coaches: Dylan Greenberg; Zach Israel
Captain: Daniel Bieber
Vice-captain: Judd Jocum
 Adam Merris
 Daniel Sha'altiel
 Jamie Palmer
 Jesse Katz
 Judd Kilborn
 Kai Seeff
 Liam Chin
 Troy Chilchik
 Zachary Valkin
 Zack Musikanth

U18 TEAM

Coach: Reon Siyaya
Manager: Jade Spiro
Captain: Ben Vogelman
Vice-captain: Nicholas Arelisky
 Ben Isserow
 Ben Levy
 Daniel Nathan
 Jared Mandelstam
 Justin Cohen
 Leo Letschert
 Sam Cohen
 Samuel Selikow
 Yonatan Kutli-Alexander

OPENS

Coach: Reon Siyaya
Captain: Jordan Arelisky
Vice-captains: Aaron Isserow; Brad Reingold
 Adam Gorin
 Benjamin Sulcas
 Gadi Cohen
 Jamie Sulcas
 Justin Lazarus
 Keir Scherzer
 Shai Feldman
 Shane Silverman
 Zach Brivik

GOLF

Convenors: Daniel Egdes; Simone Cohen
MASTER: Moshe Duek

KARATE

OPENS
 Greg Cohen; Noah Maisel

MACCABI MAN

OPEN
 Trevor Garvin

NETBALL

Manager: Carla Kassel

U16 TEAM

Coach: Roxanne Goddard
Captain: Morgan Noach
Vice-captain: Ariella Gnesin
 Alexandra Barak
 Amy Vogelman
 Anna Lieberman
 Eliya Ossin
 Ella Rosmarin
 Gila Smith
 Hannah Nomis McKerr
 Lara Mervis
 Leilah Jankelowitz
 Mia Nomis McKerr

U18 TEAM

Coach: Tiffany Waner
Captain: Danielle Novick
Vice-captain: Samantha Sher
 Gabriella Bailey
 Hannah Gnesin
 Indya Fuchs
 Katya Golan
 Laila Dave
 Tali Pimstein
 Tayla Harcombe

PADEL

OPENS

Elian Wiener & Rob Sulcas (Convenors)
 Aaron Marks & Jesse Nathan
 Adrian Jacobs & Brad Stephens

RUGBY

OPENS

Convenor: Brad Berger
Manager: Anton Chait
Coach: Robbie Fleck
Assistant Coach: Gary Gold
Conditioning Coach: Johan van Wyk
Captain 15's: Hacjivah Dayimani
Vice-captain 15's: Jordan Chait
Captain 7's: Tom Walker
 Aston Silver
 Bradley Van Niekerk
 Brandon Sweet
 Brent Shone
 David Geffen
 Dean Gordon
 Dylan Coll
 Dylan Hirschowitz
 Jake Rosen
 Jared Sichel
 Jay Reiback
 Jayson Hirshovitz
 Joshua Pimstein
 Judd Silverman
 Kian Davis
 Kiernan Rabie
 Kym Hirshovitz
 Nicholas Zille
 Richard Bryant
 Shauli Asayag
 Stephan Annandale
 Thomas Berman

SURFING

OPENS
 Katie Goldreich; Levi Kruyer

SWIMMING

Convenor: Gila Carrol
Coach: Mia Russell
Boys' Captain: Michael Hendler
Girls' Captain: Ashley Henegan
Boys' Vice-captain: Ethan Mazor
Girls' Vice-captain: Thea Moodley

JUNIORS

Abby Novos
 Aryeh Froom
 Benjamin Garb
 Cameryn Suckerman
 Dalya Swartz
 Dylan Bloch
 Estella Mann
 Ethan Feinberg
 Ethan Lunt
 Gabriella Spiro
 Gabriella Smith
 Gal Marks
 Jaime Diamond
 Lior Hyman
 Noah Arelisky
 Rachel Smith
 Sienna Wilensky
 Taine Lunt
 Tali Smookler
 Taylor Henegan

OPENS

Ava Rathner
 Chad Mayer
 Chloe Gershuny
 Hannah Robertson
 Matthew Carrol
 Shane Feinberg
 Tristan Goldstein
 Zack Waters
 Zak Rachelson

MASTERS

Clifford Garrun
 David Letschert

TABLE TENNIS

JUNIOR
 Keira Sorour

TENNIS

JUNIORS

Coach: Josh Luck
Boys' Captain: Jared Marcow
Girls' Captain: Mikayla Plitt
 Aiden Goralsky
 Alexa Reubenson
 Daniel Goralsky
 Daniel Markman
 Ethan Grusin
 Jaymie Goldschmidt
 Leora Joffe
 Levi Sweidan
 Rebecca Widan
 Samuel Froom
 Sara Joffe
 Teagan Goldsmith
 Zack Rogoff

MASTERS

Jacqui Boyd
 Philip Froom

TRACK AND FIELD

JUNIOR
 Tali Kamener

OPENS

Adam Lipschitz, Noah Ditz

WATER POLO

U18 TEAM

Convenor: Jane Letschert
Coach: Mathew Jacobson
Co-captains: Benjamin Scher; Caine Letschert
 Aaron Levin
 Adam Lieberman
 Ben Reiback
 Bryce Herbert
 Jonathan Bregman-Frangos
 Jordan Osrin
 Matt Whitesman
 Oliver Ditz
 Pierre Du Plessis
 Samuel Berchowit
 Seth Varkel

WEIGHTLIFTING

OPENS

Greg Surmany; Keegan Cohen; Reegan Finkel

Restoration of the 'Old Shul'



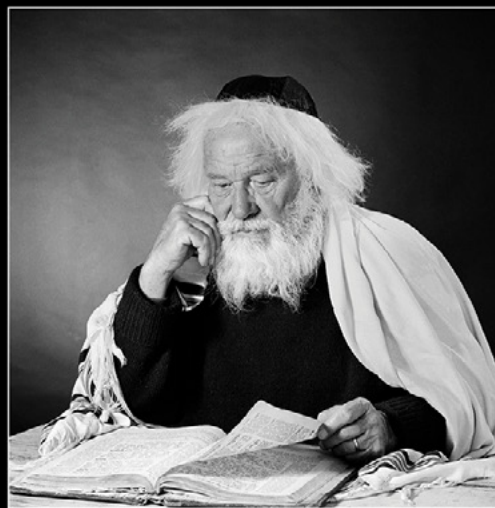
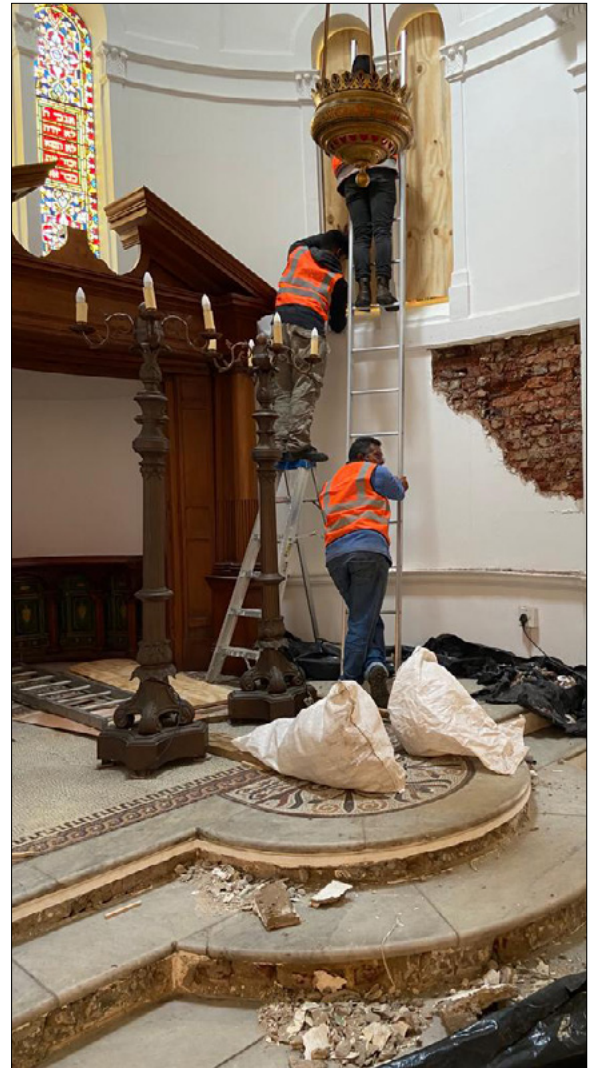
After more than 150 years in existence, even the loveliest old lady needs some refreshing.

It was September 1863 that the Tikvath Israel Congregation (now the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation) opened the doors of South Africa's first custom-built shul, the St John's Street Synagogue. All services were held here until 1905, when the swelling numbers of Jewish immigrants led to the opening of the Gardens Shul right next door.

Since 1905 the 'Old Shul' (as it became

affectionately known) hosted the early Cape Town Jewish Museum, student services, candle lighting ceremonies, weddings, music and theatre performances and all manner of events. In 2000 it became the welcoming entrance to the SA Jewish Museum.

While still beautiful, the Old Shul has recently become a little faded. Thanks to a generous grant from the Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation, allocated to the museum by the US State Department, we are giving our old lady a makeover from top to bottom. Renovation of floors, ceiling, walls, windows and internal structures is currently underway and is due to be completed in late August. We look forward to showing off our fully restored Old Shul when we reopen the building later this year.



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A VIEW FROM THE BAR

Is the law fair or fickle?

By Anton Katz SC

The saga of 22-year-old Pretoria law student Mr Tuta is interesting. Does his story demonstrate that law and justice ultimately prevail, or rather that the law is arbitrary, can be, and often is fickle?

Mr Tuta and his friend were peacefully and soberly walking home to his residence in Sunnyside, Pretoria on 2 March 2018 in the late evening. They realised that they were being followed by a red unmarked motor vehicle with its two occupants wearing civilian clothing. Mr Tuta and his friend panicked and ran away, believing that the occupants of the vehicle intended to harm them. They ran in different directions.

The two occupants of the unmarked motor vehicle were, in fact, police officers. They were on duty patrolling Sunnyside in civilian clothing. According to one of the policemen they attempted to arrest Mr Tuta after he and his friend ran away. The police suspected Mr Tuta of being in possession of a stolen laptop

because, according to the police, it

appeared as if he was hiding a laptop under his tracksuit jacket. They pursued him, first in the unmarked car, and thereafter on foot. The two policemen overpowered Mr Tuta, and whilst the one held him down, the other went to the vehicle to fetch handcuffs. Mr Tuta, using a flick knife that was in his pocket, then stabbed the one constable, who died the next day after being admitted to hospital. When the other officer returned, he was stabbed in the head, was eventually hospitalised for 34 weeks and now lives with a severely injured left eye that has affected his eyesight.

Mr Tuta admitted to stabbing both police officers. He says he left the scene immediately to seek help. He said that after failing to receive assistance from security guards in the vicinity, he went to his residence. There he told the security guard what had happened, and also called his sister to tell her. The following day, accompanied by his sister, Mr Tuta went to the police station to report the matter. They were informed

by the police that a case could not be opened because he could not

identify his attackers. Mr Tuta left his contact details and residential address with the police officer on duty at the station. Later that day the police turned up at his residence and arrested him. The police demanded he hand over the stolen laptop, but Mr Tuta informed the police he had not been carrying a laptop. Mr Tuta was charged in the High Court with one count of murder, and one count

of attempted murder in respect to the two constables. He pleaded not guilty to both counts. His defence was 'putative self defence'. That defence is when an accused kills another in the mistaken but genuine belief that his life is in danger. The accused lacks the intention to act unlawfully. That accused is accordingly not guilty of murder.

When one is sued or sues for an unfair labour practice, or we approach court for child maintenance, or for the return of our life savings stolen by an unscrupulous financial advisor, or we are charged with a relatively minor crime; can we expect justice and fairness in the process?

Mr Tuta's defence was rejected. In September 2019, he was convicted on both charges of murder and attempted murder. The minimum sentence for killing a police officer is life imprisonment, which was imposed on him together with 15 years' imprisonment on the count of attempted murder.

Mr Tuta applied to the High Court and then to the Supreme Court of Appeal to appeal against his convictions. Both the High Court (one judge and two assessors) and the SCA (three appeal court judges, including the President) found that he was correctly convicted and sentenced. He thus had no prospects on appeal and so he was refused to appeal at all.

As a last measure he appealed to the Constitutional Court against his convictions and sentences. Nine justices of the Constitutional Court heard the matter. Miraculously for him, Mr Tuta won. Seven justices (Acting Justice David Unterhalter writing for the majority) ruled in his favour, while two would have ruled against him.

So, on one day (12 May 2022) Mr Tuta was serving a life sentence because four judges (plus two dissenting Constitutional Court justices) had accepted he was guilty. And on the

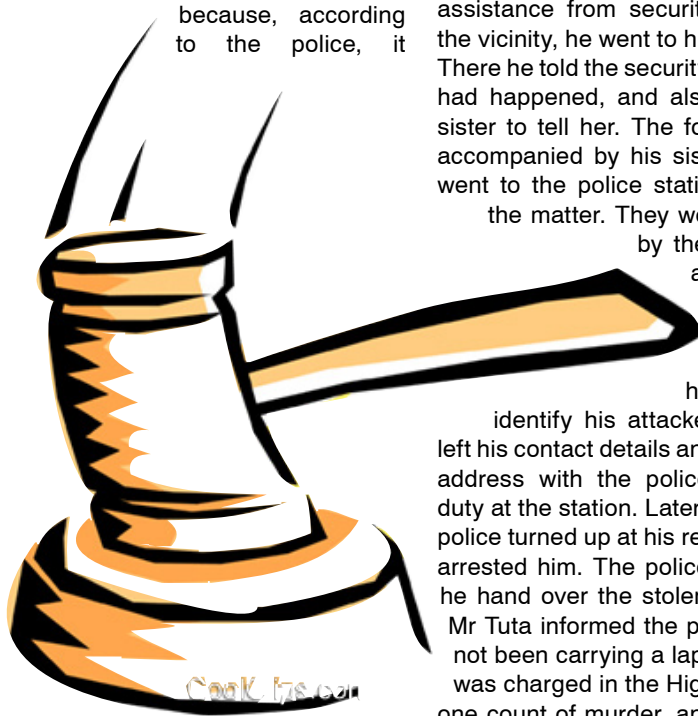
next day (13 May 2022) the Constitutional Court (in a seven two split decision) freed him from prison forever. Unbelievable, some would say!



One of the obvious lessons that can be learnt is that in life there is always hope. To be serving a sentence of life imprisonment one day and to be free forever the next means we all can live in hope for a better tomorrow, whatever that may mean for each of us. But as far the law is concerned questions must be asked about whether it was applied fairly to Mr Tuta.

And that question takes on a larger role when asked about each of our cases. When one is sued or sues for an unfair labour practice, or we approach court for child maintenance, or for the return of our life savings stolen by an unscrupulous financial advisor, or we are charged with a relatively minor crime; can we expect justice and fairness in the process? Or is the result of the court process arbitrary and fickle? After all, courts are nothing but human beings clothed in fancy robes, sitting on high backed chairs and making decisions on disputes between us. And those human judges have the lives of all who appear before them, like Mr Tuta, in their hands. What a responsibility? Some humans are fair minded whilst others, by the nature of things, can be fickle at times. And I suppose the ultimate lesson is that the law is mostly fair and just, but not always.

Anton Katz is a practising Senior Counsel, former United Nations special rapporteur on mercenaries and human rights, former Acting High Court Judge, and an admitted attorney in New York. He was born and raised in Sea Point.



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An obsessive society

By Craig Nudelman

Wordle. That one word can make you anxious, exhilarated, frustrated, annoyed, and superior, perhaps all at the same time.

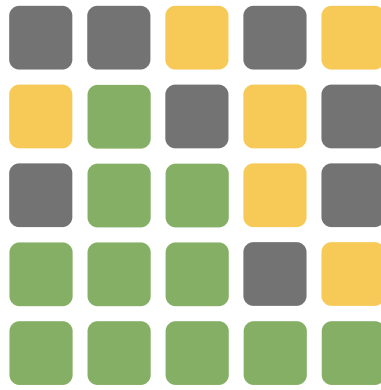
That's true for me, at least. *Wordle* is now a daily part of my world (speaking of world, I play *Worldle*, too). I think I can speak for many people as well, where guessing a five-letter word is now a daily habit. But why have those grey, yellow, and green squares become so popular?

Wordle, which became a household word at the end of 2021, was created by Josh Wardle for his wife who loves word puzzles. When it was released to the public in October 2021, it became an instant hit, eventually being bought by the New York Times for at least \$1 million. The simplicity of the game, guessing a five-letter word in six attempts, is novel for the fact that the word changes every day. This ensures that the user will never get bored of racking their brains for a new word. Not only this, but the word is the same everywhere across the globe.

There are several psychological reasons why we, as humans, have latched onto *Wordle*, and all the offshoots of it, such as *Worldle*, *Globe*, *Flagle*, *Quordle*, *Absurdle*, *Dordle*, *Octordle*, *Sedecordle*, *Lewdle*, *Primel*, *Queerdle*, and so many more (including a Jewish-themed one, *Jewdle!*). All of these games lead to a sense of community, as we are all guessing the same word on a specific day. British psychologist Lee Chambers, writing for *Insider*, says that the fact that we are all trying, or struggling, to solve the same puzzle makes us feel as though we're working together to wrestle with a bigger problem. Others speculate that the timing of the game's release brought people closer as they needed that feeling of interconnectivity. The Omicron variant, economic uncertainty, political discontent and other broader issues gave people something fun to think about, albeit for a few minutes (or hours) during the day. It is a distraction in the middle of a chaotic world.

Chambers looked at the way in which Covid affected our perception of time. She states, "because the *Wordle* puzzles are numbered with a daily counter, they can help anchor us to the day of the week, as our perception of time has been affected by pandemic restrictions and remote working." Not only does our perception of time change, but the fact that you can only do one puzzle per day limits our ability to get bored with it. In a world where we are

constantly distracted and may even over-indulge or binge, we are now restricted for the rest of the day for the next puzzle. I see this as going back to the old days of watching my favourite sitcom — we had to wait a whole week for the next episode (and we couldn't always record it)!



Clinical psychologist Dr Patapia Tzotzoli looks at other psychological advantages. Quoted in *The Guardian*, she believes that *Wordle's* appeal lies in the philosophy of self-determination. She states, "The theory suggests we can become self-determined when our three innate psychological needs — autonomy, competence and connection — are met." *Wordle* does just that — we are autonomous in that we choose when to take the few minutes out of our day to play the game. We are offered the chance to be competent because of our ability (or inability) to solve the puzzle and do better than others (or commiserate with those who didn't do well). And finally, it makes us feel as though we are part of a wider community.

Although *Wordle* may bring us together and create a sense of community, Dr Bence Nanay, in *Psychology Today*, brings a different psychological dimension to the game. Instead of sharing our experiences in terms of our intellect, we are actually trying to feel superior to other players. Due to the ability to share our results on social media, the seemingly 'kumbaya' nature of the game is rather distorted to show our insecurities and competitiveness. He writes, that either we are amazing and better than our peers, or we realise that perhaps we aren't as good as we think we are, and can do better the next day. Some people may even think that it was just a fluke that they didn't get it, and were just unlucky (I have definitely thought this before). However, there is a psychological term known as the *Dunning-Kruger effect*.

The definition of this is, 'a cognitive bias whereby people with limited knowledge or competence in a given intellectual or social domain greatly overestimate their own

knowledge or competence in that domain relative to objective criteria or to the performance of their peers or of people in general'. Can we say, objectively, that we are better than average at — as Nanay says succinctly — "pretty much anything"? Nanay brings up interesting statistics about groups of people who think their abilities are better than average. In the US, 93% of drivers believe that they are better than average at driving, 90% of university professors think their teaching is better than average, and 85% of teenagers believe that they are more amiable than their peers. With regards to *Wordle*, he says that this leads to a justification of sorts, when we do not do as well as we should. Nanay does not believe that this game and its offshoots bring us closer together. He states, "Rather, it manipulates our deepest insecurities."

Whatever your feelings are about *Wordle*, there can be no doubt that it has changed how we see little

yellow and green blocks and five-letter words. I have a subscription to the New York Times where I can see how well I fared against the global community. Yes, I am competitive in nature, and I do feel superior if I do it in three turns and my colleagues or friends take four or five. But that doesn't change the fact that its popularity, and our obsession with this game, has changed the world as we know it.

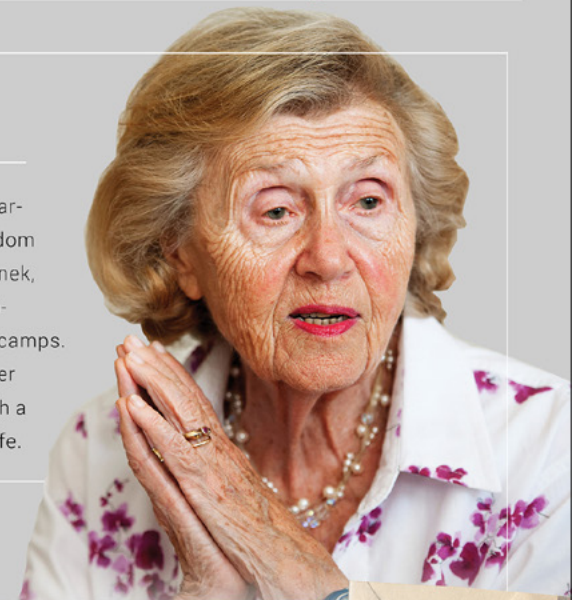


Craig is a writer, Jewish professional, and tour guide extraordinaire. His deep bass voice has graced stages, synagogues and studios. He is an obedient husband, father to two spectacular daughters, and is known for dad jokes and trivia.

Join us on **Tuesday 12 July, 3pm (SAST)**

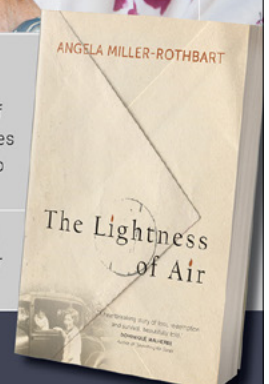
A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO *Henia Bryer*

Henia Bryer is a 97-year-old survivor of the Radom ghetto, and the Majdanek, Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen concentration camps. Come and celebrate her resilience as we launch a book inspired by her life.



Angela Miller-Rothbart's debut novel *The Lightness of Air* tells the story about the concentration camps during the dark days of World War II, and the woman whose memories of an unspeakable act in history gave birth to this remarkable story.

Angela Miller-Rothbart was born and raised in Paarl, South Africa. She is an entrepreneur and businesswoman.



Cape Town Holocaust & Genocide Centre,
88 Hatfield St, Gardens

Light refreshments will be served. Suggested donation R30. Booking essential. 021 462 5553 or admin@holocaust.org.za

Sam Aaron z"l

By Jack Aaron, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Sam Aaron, known affectionately as Shmoo, passed away recently in London at the age of 95. He was born in Ficksburg in 1926, and relocated to Muizenberg with his family when he was five.

Sam had a brilliant academic career. He went to Muizenberg High School skipping a class twice, with the result that he matriculated from his later school, Rondebosch Boys High, three months after turning 15. Serious and scholarly, an avid reader, he was widely regarded as a 'brain'.

He obtained his BA by the age of 18 and went on to study law, obtaining his law degree at age 21. In his final year of his LLB, he won all three class medals for the best student. Modest and self effacing, he neglected to pick up those medals until several months later when the university called to remind him that they were awaiting his collection!

He was an early and devoted Zionist, mentored by the late Mr Justice Joseph Herbststein, with whom he clerked as a registrar for a year following his graduation from law school. He was also an early liberal, in outlook and action. He was one of the founders of the so-called Cape Non-European Night School Association and taught in Retreat and at CAFDA. He was later to become vice-chairman of the South African Liberal Party at the time of its foundation, and was active until it was declared illegal and banned.

Sam's career at the Cape Town Bar was stellar. His court craft was brilliant and he handled several high profile cases. He was a lawyer for all seasons and would excel in all areas of litigation — construction

and commercial cases; matrimonial and political cases. Appointed Senior Counsel (the post-republic version of Queen's Counsel), he left the Bar to practise as an attorney with the prestigious law firm of Sonnenberg, Hoffmann and Galombik for a couple of years and then returned to the Bar where he resumed his distinguished practice, including appointments as a Judge of the Courts of Appeal in Lesotho and Swaziland.



Sam was 60 when he and his wife Alice emigrated to London, where he was called to the English Bar in 1986. He became a member of Gray's Inn and had a successful practice as a barrister for a number of years, until retiring to join Stanley Lewis and his family as a legal consultant at their firm, Oceana Investment.

Sam had a dazzling intelligence, with wide ranging interests which included Jewish genealogy and philately. He was a master of puzzles and, at 87, published a book on Sudoku-solving techniques. Up until the day before he died, he was still solving *Wordle* in 3.

Predeceased by Alice, his wife of almost 60 years, Sam is survived by his son, Colin, who lives in New York City, by his brother and sister in law, Jack and Lolita of Vancouver, Canada, and by Rina Gordon Rosenberg of Palo Alto, with whom he enjoyed a happy five years together until the end of his life, commuting between their respective residences in London and Palo Alto.

Family Announcements

BEREAVEMENT

Leslie Hurwitz passed away in Somerset West on Tuesday 21 June 2022 after a short struggle with cancer.

Born in Paarl in 1940, he was the son of Chaim and Leah, and was married to Elize in 1966 in Paarl Synagogue.

He was an accomplished sportsman, playing cricket for Western Province as well as rugby for the Paarl district first team. He was a pioneer of mixed-race sports and was the first white player in Paarl's Young People's cricket team in the early 1970s. In later years Les was a keen park runner, frequently leading in his category until taking ill in January 2022.

Throughout his life Les was an active member of the Jewish community, and an avid historian with a fascination for South African Jewish history and the small towns of the Karoo. The *Jewish Record* published a number of his pieces on the forgotten stories of early Jewish settlers to the Cape.

Les is survived by his wife Elize, and his children Ronelle, Brandon and Tamar, eight grandchildren, and his sister Bella.

SA JEWS OF SEPHARDIC HERITAGE ARE ELIGIBLE TO OBTAIN EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP AND AN EU PASSPORT

As the majority of South African Jews are descendants of Jews whose European citizenship was illegally taken from them, they are now entitled to reinstate and obtain an EU passport.

There is a common misconception that European citizenship and EU Passport can only be obtained if one has documents proving his/her lineage.

This is in actual fact not the case for Sephardic Jews who do not have documents to prove their lineage.



Jews of Sephardic Heritage, this includes Jews from North America, Kongo, Zimbabwe, Middle East, Turkey, Greece, Italy, Yugoslavia as well as descendants arriving from Holland and the UK.

YOU MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE TO REINSTATE YOUR PORTUGUESE CITIZENSHIP & EU PASSPORT.

I will on behalf of the applicant, apply and obtain an official certificate confirming such an eligibility, on the basis of which an application for Portuguese citizenship is most likely to be approved.

Having a European citizenship offers more than one benefit, besides the fact that it makes traveling far easier than a South African Passport.

As we are all fully aware of the current situation in South Africa where we face many uncertainties.

NOT JUST FOR TODAY BUT FOR OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE AS WELL.



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

My name is Avi Horesh, a well known Advocate in Israel and one of the leading lawyers in the field of reinstatement for European citizenship.

With only a 5 hour flight to Lisbon, where I closely collaborate with local professionals in assisting me trace required documents for your successful applications to reinstate a European citizen.

I have been operating in the South African market with our Jewish communities since March 2018, and visit every 3-4 months which will allow us to meet in person.

My next trip will be around June-July 2022.

You can reach me on:

WhatsApp:
+48 783 953 223

Email:
adv.avi.n.horesh@gmail.com



IMPORTANT UPDATE: Portuguese law was recently changed, and last date in which applications for reinstatement of Portuguese citizenship can be submitted is 31.08.22. **After that date, this process will not be valid anymore.**

ISRAEL: A JOURNEY MAKING MEANING

We are up and running!

Julian Resnick writes from Israel

For just over two years my life of guiding and educational travel was on hold.

I did not suffer much, as I live on a kibbutz with my wife, two of my three children (the youngest lives in Tel Aviv), their spouses AND my six grandchildren. I had felt for a long time that life was good on kibbutz — even before my first grandchild arrived, but I had a surprise in store for me when I became a grandfather for the first time almost eight years ago. The good was about to change to GREAT!

This is how we are supposed to live. Extended families caring for each other, standing in for each other, eating with each other, living with each other. And during Corona, this was our routine — together. I did miss being out there, touring, teaching, experiencing, sharing my love for Israel and my passion for the Jewish People and our story, but I lived with the belief that it would return.

And it has, as we say in Hebrew, בגדול (big-time).

In the Old City of Jerusalem, in Caesarea, on the Golan Heights, in Tzfat, in Akko, in Tel Aviv, I run into colleagues telling our stories, clarifying our narratives (and at times sharing the alternative narratives too), marveling together with their tourists from the US, South Africa, the UK, France, India, Egypt, Indonesia (yes, there are Muslim tourists too, often distinguishable as such as they wear traditional garb worn by religious Muslims) at the beautiful sites, sharing powerful stories and emotional responses.

Just over a month ago I guided a lovely, small group of four people — two Jews and two Sikhs. There was something unusual about this small group. No, it was not the interfaith part of it, I have done many interfaith groups before. It was not the size of the group — I have guided from a single person to groups of 40 people. It was not that they were really lovely to be with — I enjoy being with most of the people I guide, even though I will tell you that it was lovely being with the four of them.

What was unusual was our mode of transport for the short five days they were here in Israel. As we wanted to cover a huge part of the narrative and

see much of the country and we had a very large budget, we used helicopters to see Israel.

And what a sight it was seeing Jerusalem from the air!! The Old City with the Western Wall and the Dome of the Rock, the Dead Sea and the Judean Desert, the Mediterranean coast, Tzfat and the Galilee, the Golan Heights. All magnificent! And, as Israel is so small, our time in the air was no more than 45 minutes per ride.

These are the three sites I would visit with you on this helicopter-supported day in Israel.

Looking back at those five days, another thought enters my head — one which I thought I would share with you. I thought to myself that if I could use a helicopter to visit the three most powerful sites in Israel in a day, not being limited by travel time, traffic jam and geographical location, where would I go? (and where would I eat my meals on that day? — yes, some restaurant suggestions are going to be included here).

These are the three sites I would visit with you on this helicopter-supported day in Israel. We would take off just north of Tel Aviv near Herzliya, from a field across the road from the Herzliya airport. We would have left about 7.30am from our Tel Aviv hotel. If your budget was very big, you would have finished a lovely breakfast at *The Norman*; if smaller because the cost of the helicopter has cleaned you out, the breakfast would have been at the *Market House*. Our destination on the first of our rides would be Jerusalem. We would land near the Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus, drive just a few minutes to the viewpoint, looking over the Old City from our northeast vantage point and enjoying the view dominated by the Dome of the Rock. I would use one text to create the narrative framework, a few lines from Genesis 22:

²²Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

² Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac — and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."



⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, ⁷Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

⁸ Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

⁹When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

¹²"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

Offering this text as the contextualization for the rest of the 24 hours, and emphasizing the phrases in bold on this page as the crucial lines of text, we continue to what is for me the crucial site in a visit to Jerusalem, the *Ophel* or the Southern Steps. Looking at the *Hulda Gates*, the conversation turns to one about empathy, about becoming the best possible Jewish State we can be, about celebrating our return and yet being mindful that our joy, our legitimate joy, is not enjoyed by all who live here.

Continues on page 28

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Anton Katz SC lends his expertise to the Gupta extradition case

Our very own CJC columnist Anton Katz SC was recently thrust into the limelight.

Last month it was confirmed that along with two other advocates — Kessler Perumalsamy and Eshed Cohen (also a member of our CT community) — Katz would be joining the team from the NPA and The Department of Justice, working to finalise the formal extradition of brothers Atul and Rajesh Gupta from the UAE, where they were recently arrested, to face charges related to state capture and corruption, in South Africa.

When Justice Minister Ronald Lamola made an appeal earlier this year at the annual meeting of the Law Society, for members of the profession to make available their legal services to the prosecution of corruption-related charges, Katz responded by offering his services.

Katz is considered a leading expert in the field, and has appeared in all of the country's superior courts on extradition-related matters. News of his inclusion in the team is being hailed as a great boost to the case.

Anton Katz is the author of the monthly Cape Jewish Chronicle column, A view from the bar. You can read this month's offering on [page 24](#), and previous columns by going to <https://cjc.org.za> (search for Anton Katz in the search bar).

Continued from page 27

We are up and running!

We consider the implications for the staircase that our ancestors walked up on the pilgrimage festivals. We talk about being mindful of pain even when we celebrate, about the destruction of the Temple and about the reminders in our life cycle events.

We return to our helicopter and fly over the Judean Desert with a sideways glance at the Dead sea, up the Jordan Valley; and land on the Golan Heights at the foot of Mt. Bental. It is at the top of the Bental, as we look into Syria, that I bemoan the decision in recent times to replace the original political sculpture with the distances to Damascus, Washington DC and the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem — signs dense with political meaning — with totally *parve* signs which mentions the distances to New York and Toronto.

Who cares? Silly of me, of course all South African Jewish families care because their aunt/uncle/brother/cousin lives there; but seriously, why? Why remove the wonderful teaching aid as we consider the difference between the distance to Damascus (60km), the distance to the Prime Minister's office in Jerusalem (243km), and the distance to Washington DC (11,800km)? Do I need to add anything? I think not.

Back up in the air, across the north of Israel and we begin to head down the Mediterranean coastline, passing Akko, Haifa and Caesarea before landing again and heading for our third and final site of the day in Tel Aviv.

So many wonderful possibilities in Tel Aviv, but I need to choose one. I am going to choose a walk along the promenade. I will begin just across from the Carlton Hotel towards the beach next to where Haim Arlosoroff was murdered a long time ago, on June 16, 1933. Here I will tell a story of fact stranger than fiction.

I will continue walking along the water's edge, sandals in hand and toes in the water. We will talk of identity, of claiming the public domain (or *pharhesia*), of identity questions, of what makes this small piece of coast Jewish space. Of political satire (when we stand next to the bizarre statue of Ben Gurion doing a headstand), of the sinking of the *Altalena*.

We will walk and talk for close to an hour until we finally stand near where the Dolphinarium once stood, in front of two memorials side by side. Both remembering that awful night in 2001 during the Second Intifada, when a Hamas-affiliated suicide bomber blew himself up killing 21 young people.

Oh, I did promise you a few restaurants, even if you are arriving by car or bus and not by helicopter. Eat at *Onza* in Jaffa, *Habasta* in the Carmel Market or *The Eucalyptus* in Jerusalem. Warning — only one of the three is Kosher.

See you soon in Israel.

Stuart Diamond appointed CEO of Mitzvah Day UK



Newly appointed CEO of the faith-led social action charity Mitzvah Day UK, Stuart Diamond with Mitzvah Day founder and chair Laura Marks OBE

Former director of the Cape South African Jewish Board of Deputies (Cape SAJBD), Stuart Diamond, has been appointed as the new CEO of faith-led social action charity Mitzvah Day in the UK.

It's just a year since Stuart immigrated to the UK with his wife, Lindy and their three daughters. Since arriving in the UK, he has been working both with Moishe House and the United Synagogue whilst on the lookout for a role that resonates with his passion to roll up his sleeves and serve his community with a hands-on and supportive leadership style.

Before his role at the Board of Deputies, Stuart was the Mayoral Committee member for assets and facilities for the City of Cape Town. He is also currently a governor of Alma Primary School in Friern Barnet.

Mitzvah Day has become firmly established as the UK's largest faith-led day of social action with 25,000 volunteers of all faiths and backgrounds across Britain doing good deeds every year. A further 15 000 get involved in more than 30 other countries around the globe.

Local South African Jewish social change organisation Mensch has partnered with Mitzvah Day UK since 2019 expanding participation in Southern Africa. Stuart participated in numerous projects both in a personal capacity with his family and in his professional capacity at the Cape SAJBD who have partnered with Mensch to bring this impactful day more broadly into our community.

Stuart said: "Service to community is my calling and tikkun olam and interfaith work are close to my heart. I am thrilled to be a part of the UK's — and possibly the world's — largest faith-led day of social action, and I am ready for the challenges and the opportunities that I see ahead of us."

Mitzvah Day founder and chair Laura Marks OBE said that when Stuart approached Mitzvah Day about the role, "we didn't hesitate to snap him up".

She added, "Stuart's extensive experience in interfaith relations, in work with government and in social action made him an ideal candidate. His can-do attitude and huge smile made him perfect.

"We can't wait for Stuart to don his green t-shirt and to help us and our 'volunteer army' take Mitzvah Day to the next level".

This year, Mitzvah Day in South Africa takes place on Sunday 20 November. Mensch will again be hosting and promoting projects all over the city and country.

To find out more about how you can get involved, please contact jodi@mensch.org.za. To find out more about Mitzvah Day UK, please visit www.mitzvahday.org.uk.

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SIMCHA SNAPS



Jade Kaplan to Brian Blumenthal

Photo: John Armstrong



Leonie Weyers to Grant Staniland

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Chantelle Van Dyk to Ryan Kaplan

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Jenna Goldberg to Byron Spilkin

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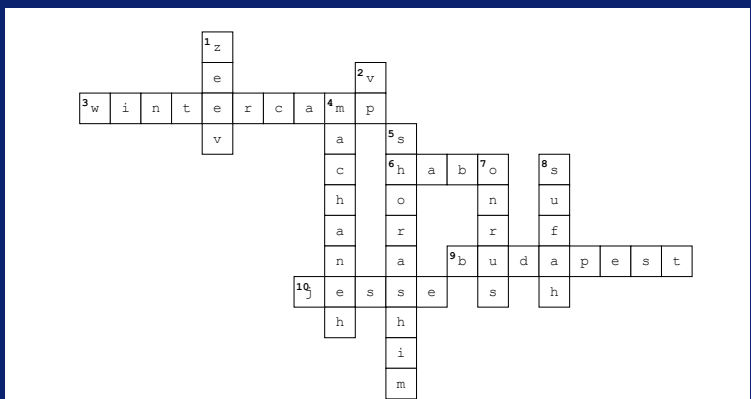
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Habonim crossword answers — from page 11



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- Budapest
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- Machaneh
- Shorashim
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