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2011

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Jewish Report

JOHNNIE WALKER



DATE: AUGUST 11, 2011

VENUE: MAROELA ROOM, SANDTON SUN

SOUTH AFRICAN

Jewish Report



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Israel looking to increasing its investment in Africa

PAGE 8



A NATION MOURNS

In a reflective mood. South Africa last Saturday bade farewell to Mama Albertina Sisulu at the Orlando Stadium in Soweto. She died at age 92 and was laid to rest in the Newclare Cemetery in Johannesburg, next to her late husband, Walter. This hero of the Struggle, who always fearlessly spoke her mind, retained a dignity throughout her long life. Pictured at the funeral ceremony (front row) are Philip Chauke, driver to former Chief Justice Arthur Chaskalson; Alexi Bizos, son of Struggle lawyer Advocate George Bizos; George Bizos; and Arthur Chaskalson. Bizos and Chaskalson both played key roles in the legal fight against apartheid. (PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDRYVER)

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Shelach			
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17:26	18:21	Cape Town	
16:46	17:39	Durban	
17:07	18:00	Bloemfontein	
16:58	17:52	Port Elizabeth	
16:51	17:45	East London	



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PARSHA OF THE WEEK

The Invisibility Cloak



PARSHAT
SHELACH
Rabbi Danny Sackstein
Sunny Road Shul

HARRY POTTER fans are familiar with the Invisibility Cloak. Imagine you had such a cloak. When you put it on, you can walk around without anyone seeing you. Then you decide to have some fun.

You take someone's cellphone from the table. They run around in a frenzy looking for it. You put your foot out and someone goes flying. Then you punch someone in the stomach. "Aggggggh!" The joke is no longer funny.

The Chofetz Chaim explains that the curse in the Torah for someone who "hits his neighbour while hiding", refers to someone who speaks lashon hara - words that cause harm - about his friend.

Why do I say such a thing? Because he isn't here. If he were here I would never say what I said. I only say it because he isn't around. In that sense, I am hitting him while hiding. I am wearing the Invisibility Cloak. Words can have such a harmful effect. It is for this reason, said the Rambam, the Torah forbids lashon hara.

The parsha of Shelach opens up with the story of the spies who went to search out the Land of Israel. Rashi points out that the previous parsha ends with the story of Miriam getting a skin disease and being sent out of the camp because she spoke lashon hara about Moshe.

Since the parsha begins with the spies, it indicates that these two events are connected. But Rashi is bothered by the fact that these two events did not occur in chronological order. The rebellion of Korach happened before the spies went into the land.

Rashi explains that the Torah juxtaposed these two events to teach us a lesson: The spies should have learned from what happened to Miriam and that would have prevented them from saying their negative report about the land.

The problem with this Rashi is that the sin of the spies was not lashon hara, but a lack of trust in Hashem. When they entered the land they saw giants in fortified cities. They witnessed people dying all over.

Their conclusion was that the Jewish people would be slaughtered if they would try conquering the land. Their faith in Hashem was deficient. They were not guilty of speaking lashon hara. Lashon hara applies to our speaking about people not inanimate objects.

Furthermore according to their understanding they were not speaking lashon hara at all, they thought they were saving the Jewish people from annihilation.

The answer stems from why the Torah forbids lashon hara, because of the damage and harm our words can cause - the destructive power of the invisible cloak.

The spies should have seen what happened to Miriam and learned one vital lesson - the power of speech. They should have thought to themselves that if such a righteous woman said something slightly questionable about her brother whom she cared for deeply and as a result still had to be sent out of the camp for seven days to suffer public humiliation, why did Hashem act so harshly with her?

They should have realised that words are a devastatingly powerful force. Had the spies learned this lesson, they would have been far more careful with their words and the consequences of their speech.

This has great relevance to our lives. We speak loosely without contemplating the potential damage our words may be doing. The Torah is teaching us the unbelievable power of the spoken word.

It's Absa Jewish Achievers' barmitzvah this year

PETER FELDMAN

THE COUNTDOWN has begun for the Absa Jewish Achiever Awards 2011, an annual highlight of the Jewish business and social calendar. Absa is again the main sponsor.

The event celebrates its barmitzvah this year and the organisers intend turning it into the best one yet.

This year's ceremony is to take place on August 11 and will again be held in the Maroela Room, Sandton Sun.

Howard Sackstein, a director of SA Jewish Report, which is hosting the awards, has called for nominations.

He said: "On behalf of the board of directors of the SA Jewish Report, we are requesting the assistance of readers in nominating people whom they consider worthy of receiving any of these awards.

"The Business and Entrepreneurial awards are judged by a panel of independent business people, financial journalists, stockbrokers and Absa representatives who will interview all the candidates."

Previous winners of these awards include Brian Joffe (Bidvest), Adrian Gore (Discovery), Raymond Ackerman (Pick n Pay), Gill Marcus (Reserve Bank), Brett Levy (Blue Label), Steven Joffe (Gold Reef City), Philip Krawitz (Cape Union Mart), William Kirsh (Primedia), Sean Melnick (Peregrine), Abe and Solly Krok (Krok Brothers), John Copelyn (HCI), Rael Levitt (Auction Alliance), Arthur Gillis (Protea Hotels), Phillip Tobias (Paleo-anthropologist), Ina Perlman (Operation Hunger), Johnny Clegg (Musician) and Pieter-Dirk Uys (Satirist).

In the past the awards also honoured both President Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu for their contributions to South Africa.

Absa Bank is again sponsoring the main "Business Achiever of the Year Award", which goes to nominees from both listed and non-listed companies. The criteria are that nominees must be members of the Jewish community, must serve either as MD or CEO of a major corporation and must show consistent performance and credible empowerment procedures.

Absa said it was honoured to be one of the sponsors of the 2011 Jewish Achievement Awards. "We believe our role extends beyond that of a bank and that is why our association with SA's Jewish achievers has stretched over a number of years.

"Absa is inspired by the achievers' exemplary dedication towards the achievement of SA's many socio-economic goals. We are passionate about our role as a leading bank

on the African continent, recognise and share the goals this year of these achievers to strengthen the fabric of our community."

The Helen Suzman Lifetime Achiever Award is given to a member of the Jewish community for his or her lifetime contribution to South African Jewry by achieving reconciliation, change and empowerment in the fields of business and/or art or science, and/or sport and philanthropy.

The Johnnie Walker Entrepreneur Award goes to a member of the Jewish community between the ages of 18 and 40, who owns a small or medium enterprise in SA with empowerment credentials.

Brand Manager Vimal Vaghmaria, said Johnnie Walker was pleased to be associated with the Jewish Achievers.

"John Walker's journey began in the early 1900s and today the iconic Striding Man - which is said to play a central role in maintaining Johnnie Walker as the world's best-selling blended Scotch whisky - has come to symbolise progress and inspiration all over the world."

In 2007 Wendy Luhabe, one of SA's most powerful businesswomen, was honoured with a special award for her contribution to South Africa. Also honoured last year was Monica Singer, CEO of Strate Ltd, for non-listed companies.

SA Jewish Report honours people from the broader community with the Cyril Harris Humanitarian Award. These are for people who make a contribution to the economy and community by improving the quality of life of society in general.

There are also awards for community service and one for those who have achieved success in the fields of arts, science, sports and culture.

Nominations should include:

- The nominee's name and contact details
- The category nominated.
- A short motivation for the nomination:

Send nominations via email to nominations@SAJewishReport.co.za or submit them via www.SAJewishReport.co.za. The closing date is July 7.

The rules state that nominees must be South African citizens or hold a valid South African identity document.

In categories "Business Achiever Award," "Lifetime Achiever" and "Entrepreneur", a nominee must be a member of the Jewish community.

The "Humanitarian Award" category is open to the broader community, irrespective of culture, creed or gender.

Nominations are subject to adjudication by an independent panel of judges and the judges' decision is final.

KASHRUT ALERT

THESE NATURE GARDEN PRODUCTS NOT BETH DIN-APPROVED

THE JOHANNESBURG Beth Din's kashrut department has announced that Natures Garden Mediterranean Roasting Veg, as well as Natures Garden French Stir Fry, both erroneously carry the Beth Din logo.

Natures Choice Products have apolo-

gised for the error and will send coupons to consumers who have bought the products, if they contact them on 0800 204 7800, or via e-mail at info@natureschoiceproducts.co.za, before June 15. Please provide them with the batch code printed on the products.



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Bertie Lubner does Jewish community proud

DAVID SAKS

SOUTH AFRICA’S Bertie Lubner (pictured), described as “one of South Africa’s top businessmen and philanthropists” as well as being a Jewish communal leader, has been listed as one of the world’s 50 most influential Jews by the Jerusalem Post.

Lubner thereby joins an illustrious roll of prominent Jewish personalities, ranging from political and business leaders to rabbis, writers and actors.

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, head up the list, which also includes Ehud Barak, Oscar-winning actress Natalie Portman and Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz.

Lubner commented that he was deeply flattered to be included in such a distinguished group, but also stressed that simply listing a person’s achievements did not tell the whole story.

“What I would have loved them to have mentioned is how fortunate I have been to have had the family, associates and friends who have helped me during my life.

“No one person can achieve what he or she aspires to without the support of those who share their dreams and desires and who are willing to work with them in making their goals a reality” he said.

The 79 year-old Lubner’s achievements in the business, philanthropic, Jewish communal and Zionist fields, are indeed impressive. As a businessman, he was chairman of the Plate Glass and Shatterprufe Industries group, today an international concern with head offices in South Africa for five African countries and head offices in London for a further 34 countries in the rest of the world. Though now retired, he remains, with his brother Ronnie, very active in its activities.

Prior to South Africa’s transition to democracy in 1994, Lubner was involved in various philanthropic causes, among other things serving on the board of trustees of the Worcester Home for the Deaf and Blind and on the executive committee of Operation Hunger. In 1990, he was awarded the State President’s Order of Meritorious Service to South Africa.

Since 1994, Lubner has continued to be extremely active in social upliftment initiatives, working closely in this regard with government, business and the Jewish communal establishment.

With the late Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris, he co-founded Tikkun, now Afrika Tikkun, a Jewish outreach programme for reconstruction and development of previously disadvantaged communities in South Africa. He continues to serve as chairman of Afrika

Tikkun, which today also has branches in the UK, the US and Australia.

Another noteworthy initiative was establishing, with brother Ronnie, the Field Band Foundation in 1997. This organisation, of which he is president, has established 31 music bands, comprising some 5 000 young musicians from underprivileged backgrounds, countrywide.

Lubner’s close association with Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU), dates back to 1975, when he became president of the SA Associates of BGU. He has served in that capacity ever since.

In 1987, he was awarded an honorary doctorate by BGU, both in recognition of his services to the university and for his outstanding support of many South African and Israeli charities. He has since also become president of the SA-Israel Chamber of Commerce.

Lubner has been honoured by the local Jewish community as well. At the 2002 SAJBD Gauteng Council conference, he was made a life vice-president of the Gauteng Council “in recognition of his outstanding services to the South African Jewish community, the State of Israel and the people of South Africa”.

He has been active on the SAJBD Gauteng Council and national executive committee, since 1991. A staunch patron of the local Jewish press, he was a founder of and remains active on the board of directors of the SA Jewish Report.



From now it’s Dame Janet Suzman

ROBYN SASSEN

SOUTH AFRICAN-BORN Janet Suzman (72), the niece of the late Helen Suzman, has been made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for her services to drama, by Queen Elizabeth II.

In a media statement, Eric Abraham, founder of The Fugard Theatre in Cape Town, said: “I could not find better words than Athol Fugard used in his play Master Harold and The Boys, to describe her: Janet Suzman is a ‘woman of magnitude’.

“She is one of those few actors who can hold an audience in the palm of her hand, even were she to only read the telephone directory. Her contribution to South African and world drama is exceptional.



Dame Janet Suzman.
(PHOTOGRAPH BY MARTIN POPE, COURTESY WWW.TELEGRAPH.CO.UK)

“From the masterful television film of Othello, which she directed during the apartheid period (with John Kani as Othello, and Joanna Weinberg), to her riveting portrayals of Shakespeare characters on the London stage and roles in motion pictures and television for almost half a century, Janet is up there with the dramatic gods.”

AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

BOYCOTT OF SCOTTISH WHISKY URGED

NEW YORK - The umbrella body for men’s clubs at Conservative synagogues, is calling for a boycott of certain whisky brands in retaliation for an anti-Israel boycott by a Scottish local government.

The Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs has called for the boycott in response to the West Dunbartonshire Council’s recent decision to boycott Israeli goods, The Jerusalem Post reported. The federation called on its members to stop buying whiskies made by West Dumbartonshire distillers for use in Kiddush and other celebrations.

Whisky is a popular drink among

men’s Kiddush clubs at synagogues. The counter-boycott was originally launched by the Muqata Blog, run by an Israeli who writes under the pseudonym Jameel Rashid. Among the distillers named in a letter posted on the blog, are Morrison Bowmore, Loch Lamond and Chivas Brothers.

Kirsteen Beeston, a spokesman for Morrison Bowmore Distillers, told The Jerusalem Post that her company did not take political positions and that the West Dunbartonshire Council’s policy “has been made independently from us and without our consultation”. (JTA)



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Take a breather and focus on the father

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY RITA LEWIS

IN THE Western World mainly, names for everything marketable – playing on emotions to make an extra buck, albeit mother’s milk issues that you really can’t find fault with - have become the vogue.

Government, or the UN, will link a particular day to a particular issue, to draw unified attention all over the world or country to that issue or remembrance.

You have Arbour Day; Aids Day; D-Day; 702’s Walk the Talk Day; Mother’s Day, etc. Wear a pink ribbon for this day, a red one for that day...

Modern-day Jews are accepting of these days – after all in Judaism there is Yom Kippur, Yom Yerushalayim, Yom Hashoah, Yom Hazikaron, Yom Ha’atzmaut etc and of course, once a year, Yom Huledet - which is hopefully, Sameach.

A short while ago it was Mother’s Day and obviously Father’s Day had to follow. On the third Sunday of June, this year on June 19, fatherhood, paternal bonds and a father’s influence, not only in society but on his children’s lives, is celebrated.

Jewish fathers, in particular, have gone through enormous changes in the last three generations or so. In the 1900s, after leaving shtetl life, most Jewish fathers held down blue-collar jobs or had opened their own “shopkes”.

Some 50 years later, more than half of young Jewish men were going to college and as a result, today, a large percentage of Jewish fathers are professionals or successful in business.

On Father’s Day, we honour our fathers, not by comparing them to some ideal which we have to live up to, but by acknowledging them for who they really are, what they have done for us and the challenges they faced and still face, to give their children and spouses the comfortable lives that many of them enjoy today and just accept as their due.

As Jews, we strive to live by the words, “Honour thy father” (and of course, thy mother!).

However, Jews - despite the “Father and Son” learning sessions that are being held at many shuls - have been wrestling with the often difficult task of honouring fathers for well over 3 000 years.

Abraham’s story begins with tensions with his father. Jacob battles with his brother over his father’s blessing.

The Talmud contains numerous stories which ask: What are our obligations to our fathers? To what extent do we need to go to respect them? How do we best honour them?

Father’s Day is the day to make your father and all the other “father figures” in your life – like your grandfather, stepfather and even older brothers, feel really special. It is the time to let them know how much you love them and care for them.

In case you are finding this difficult, note these quotations.

“Small boys become big men through the influence of big men who care about small boys.” - Anonymous

“All fathers are invisible in daytime; daytime is ruled by mothers and fathers come out at night. Darkness brings home fathers, with their real, unspeakable power. There is more to fathers than meets the eye.” - Margaret Atwood



iYahrzeit an app to remember loss by

ROBYN SASSEN

OVER THE past couple of years, software programmes developed specifically for phones and tablets, known as “apps”, have been taking the communication industry by storm. And the Jewish world is not exempt.

While there is a rich array of easily accessible apps out there for specifically Jewish use, ranging from benschers to kashrut regulations, one has a very special set of roots.

South African-born Sydney resident Gila Rakusin-Frankl, an IT specialist with commerce and industrial psychology qualifications and 12 years’ experience in IT, lost her brother four years ago. The devastation of the loss encouraged her to design an app to help people remember the yahrzeits of loved ones.

“We have integrated the loss of Arie into the tapestry of our lives,” she told the Australian Jewish News in an article earlier this year. “His yahrzeit is the saddest and hardest day of the year for us.”

“It was not difficult to get iYahrzeit launched,” she said in an e-mail interview, commenting that this app was launched

last December, the day before the eve of her brother’s yahrzeit. Rakusin-Frankl bought her first iPhone in 2009 and noticed the absence of an app to remind users of personally-specific dates like yahrzeits.

“We kept to Apple’s development guidelines - they have very specific rules and regulations - and iYahrzeit was approved within a week of it being reviewed.

“Although there are Jewish apps available, there is nothing quite like iYahrzeit. It is unique and useful and created for a very specific purpose – remembering and honouring deceased loved ones.

“We have had a consistent flow of users from around the world, since its launch on the App Store and the feedback has been extremely positive,” she added. “We have listened to our customers and have updated the app’s functionality to include the Hebrew calendar as well as facebook integration.

“Since the launch of iYahrzeit, we have been approached by businesses to create



Gila Rakusin-Frankl, the creator of the iYahrzeit app. (PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED)

consumer-focused apps for them. People are using mobile devices to do everything, from buying pizzas, listening to the radio, researching which car to buy, to doing banking and paying bills - anytime, anywhere. Businesses see the value in creating another channel to extend their brand, create a market presence, keep up with customer expectations and get ahead of competitors.

“With their own app, they can keep locally focused but tap into the global village.”

The app converts the Gregorian calendar to the Hebrew one, and then sends reminders to the deceased’s loved one. It also features the mourner’s kaddish in Hebrew and transliterated in English.

“Remembering and acknowledging yahrzeits shows you truly care about the soul of the departed and the loved ones who mourn them,” she added.

iYahrzeit is available via the iTunes App store for \$1,99 and can be downloaded directly to the iPad, iPhone or iPod touch.

A BlackBerry status symbol is a must for the young

ALISON GOLDBERG

PARENTS ARE under increasing pressure from their children to buy them BlackBerry cellphones, which have become not just a “must have” necessity, but a fashion item and status symbol.

Without them they feel they are out of the social loop and therefore socially handicapped.

Over the last year these phones have become increasingly more affordable. Today a BlackBerry Curve for example with a full QWERTY keyboard is now available for a mere R149 a month. That includes unlimited internet use for a flat R60 a month and the cost-free use of BlackBerry Messenger. The latter has almost become the

language of the teenager.

Findings by World Wide Worx are that kids in the 16- to 18-year-old bracket are the highest spending age group on data and internet access on the phone. In that age group 13 per cent of their spending is on data and internet access.

“BlackBerry’s cost-effectiveness is one of the things that is driving the take-up of it. In the short term BlackBerry will slash the market shares of Nokia and Samsung, though Nokia will remain the market leader,” says WWW MD Arthur Goldstuck.

WWW found the biggest usage of this Canadian product by 36- to 45-year-olds. The biggest growth last year was in the business market; this year it’s expected in the youth market (though WWW hasn’t got the demographics of that).



Grant is friendly face of Durban

LAUREN SHAPIRO DURBAN

SMILING, STYLISH, and sociable, Grant Maserow is the new friendly face of Durban.

Recently appointed as the Community Liaison Officer, Grant’s job is to welcome and integrate newcomers into this sunny coastal community. The position is part of the Living KZN programme, established by the Council of KwaZulu-Natal Jewry to promote the wonderful lifestyle offered in the province, and to encourage and assist Jewish families in their relocation.

There are many reasons people might want to move here, explains Grant. From the sandy beaches of the coast to the majestic Drakensberg mountains and the rolling Midlands in between, KZN offers a year-round temperate climate



Grant Maserow. (PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED)

and a high standard of living, within beautiful surrounds.

There are also all the necessary aspects of Jewish infrastructure, including synagogues, a mikvah, and kosher food facilities.

But moving can be a daunting prospect. In order to accommodate the possible growing number of Jews interested in moving to this idyll on the coast, the Community Liaison Officer provides information and contact

details for religious and social organisations, and answers questions that potential “settlers” may have.

This free, personalised service also includes the offer to show people around the town and “meet-and-greets” to help acquaint newcomers with each other, as well as established members of the community.

One of the challenges of moving to a

new place is to find suitable employment and business opportunities. With a thriving economy based on tourism, a major seaport and several industries, Durban offers numerous business prospects.

The Community Liaison Officer, working closely with local businesses, aims to assist families and individuals in networking and securing a means with which to support their lifestyle in their new home.

With 12 new families having relocated to Durban this year alone, Grant has his hands full. But he’s always looking to attract more people to his home town. He’s proud of his community.

“A community gives you a sense of identity,” he explains. “Having an affiliation to a community gives you a point of reference in your life. And the Durban Jewish community is a warm, close-knit one, so it’s a good community to be a part of.”

• For more information, contact Grant on (031) 332-6702, 082-4100-222 or e-mail projects@djc.co.za. Visit the Living KZN website: www.livingkzn.org.za

AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

GERMAN COURT REJECTS DEMJANJUK EXTRADITION REQUEST

MUNICH - A German court has denied a request to extradite John Demjanjuk to Spain to stand trial on charges of being an accessory to genocide and crimes against humanity.

In denying the extradition request on June 9, the Munich court questioned Spain’s jurisdiction in the case and also noted that the evidence presented against Demjanjuk was incomplete.

The Supreme Court of Spain had indicted Demjanjuk, 91, in January and requested an international arrest warrant for the former Cleveland-area autoworker.

Demjanjuk was accused of being

responsible for the deaths of 50 of 155 Spanish prisoners in the German concentration camp Flossenbug. He was charged in Spain under the country’s legal doctrine of universal jurisdiction, which allows Spain to try human rights crimes even if they did not take place on Spanish soil.

In May, Demjanjuk was found guilty in a Munich court of being an accessory to the murder of 27 900 Jews in the Sobibor concentration camp. He was sentenced to five years in prison but remains free in a nursing home facility as his appeal moves forward. (JTA)

POLLARD SEEKS PERMISSION TO VISIT DYING FATHER

JERUSALEM - The family and supporters of convicted spy for Israel Jonathan Pollard, have called on President Barack Obama to allow him to visit his dying father.

Morris Pollard’s organs have shut down following medical treatment. The 95-year-old is in an Indiana hospital.

Activists on behalf of Jonathan Pollard have contacted government officials in the United States and Israel in an effort to get Pollard compassionate leave to see his father.

Pollard, who is serving a life sentence in a federal prison in Butner, North Carolina, was allowed to make an emergency call to his father, but Morris Pollard was too weak to speak on the telephone.

Pollard was a civilian US Navy analyst when he was arrested in 1985 for spying for Israel. (JTA)

European rabbis urge Arab world to heed ‘Arab Spring’

RITA LEWIS

RECENTLY a delegation of four senior European rabbis from the Conference of European Rabbis in Brussels, Belgium, said it was vitally important that the opportunity provided by the movements for democracy in the Arab world to guarantee religious freedom in the region, should not be lost.

The delegation, led by its chairman, the chief rabbi of Moscow, Rabbi Pincus Goldschmidt, said that after years of human rights abuses and dictatorships, the Middle East should not be allowed to descend into violence and oppression.

“The quest for freedom, the most basic human right, is all encompassing because without it, human beings cannot enjoy all the blessings which life can give and which brings out the presence of G-d in every person,” he said.

Apart from Rabbi Goldschmidt, the delegation included among others Rabbi Albert Guigui, chief rabbi of Brussels and permanent representative of the Conference of European Rabbis to the European Union; Rabbi Guiseppe Laras, president of the Association of Italian Rabbis; and Abraham Levy, spiritual head of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregations of the British Commonwealth.

This seventh annual meeting was launched by President Barroso some six years previously and brought together senior religious leaders from the three

monotheistic faiths for effective and informative dialogue. Forty eight European countries were represented.

After the meeting Barroso said: “Our task is to promote democracy, pluralism, the rule of law, human rights and social justice – not only in Europe but also in our entire worldwide neighbourhood.”

Ahead of the meeting the CER leaders joined with Muslim leaders from several European countries to present a joint declaration to the heads of the three main EU institutions in which they raised concern about “increasing manifestations of Islamophobia and anti-Semitism in countries across Europe.

“Bigotry against any Jew or Muslim is an attack on all Muslims and all Jews. We are united in our belief in the dignity of all peoples...” the declaration said.

“We must never allow anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, xenophobia or racism, to become respectable in today’s Europe.”

“In that regard, we call on all political leaders not to pander to these groups by echoing their rhetoric,” a dayan of the South African Beth Din, Rabbi Samuel Suchard, echoed.

He added that the rabbis of Europe were to be commended for their stand.



Rabbi Pincus Goldschmidt, chief rabbi of Moscow.

“The peoples of oppressed regimes are to be praised for their brave fight against dictators who do not consider the masses.”

Chabad House’s Rabbi Ari Kievman said: “On the one hand it is certainly positive to see co-ordination of various religious leaders and intercultural dialogue which is one of the best ways to eliminate phobias, racism and lack of tolerance among religious and cultural groups.

“It is important to create mutual understanding and respect between different religions and cultures by emphasising the profound values that we have in common, particularly respect for fellow human beings and human dignity etc.

“On the other hand, I think that tremendous confusion is created by equating anti-Semitism with Islamophobia. They certainly cannot be equated or compared.

“European Muslims have nothing to fear from European Jews – who regularly suffer from discrimination by groups of European Muslims.

“Addressing the EU in Brussels and meeting with other religious leaders, is an appropriate step in the right direction, but this message must be conveyed to the radicals who are perpetrating and spewing hatred of Jews in their own circles too.”

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A little Dawn Goldring dwarfed between Herschel Mayer and Waverley Shul's Chazzan, Elton Krawitz.



Herschel Mayer's mother, Marlene, with Tehilla Finkelstein, Tzipora Krawitz and Jade Stu.



Charlene and Herschel Mayer, award winners Ursula Cowen and Delores Andrews with Robbie Brozin and Lionel Stein.

Morning of food, fun and entertainment

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY RITA LEWIS

THE CEREMONY for the presentation of the Robin Mayer Chessed Award took two different turns this year, when two awards were presented not as usually in the Senderwood garden of Herschel and Charlene Mayer, the son and daughter-in-law of Robin Meyer zt"l, but at the Hebrew Order of David.

At the time, the Mayers were making alterations to their home and as these had not been completed in time for the ceremony, it was decided to find another suitable venue.

Starting off the fun and laughter for the Selwyn Segal residents and guests, was magician "Gee Whizz" who kept everyone in fits of laughter with his unbelievable "magic" tricks.

Through all the laughter and camaraderie, several residents showed they were really on the ball. Some unabashedly shouted out where things were hidden, what Gee Whizz should do next, etc, etc showing that not everyone was completely fooled by his antics and sleight of hand tricks.

These included tying balloons into various shapes and the usual magician's "magic feats".

The idea of creating the award in the name of Robin Mayer was the idea of Marlene Mayer and her children. Beautiful certificates were created and these are awarding to a most deserving



The two certificates awarded to Ursula Cowen and Delores Andrews.

worker and/or volunteer connected to either Selwyn Segal or Kibbutz Lubner.

This year two awards were presented at the breakfast. They went to Delores Andrews and Ursula Cowen, both of whom have been housemothers at Kibbutz Lubner for over 18 years.

Part of their certificates read... "for their continued support to the residents of Kibbutz Lubner for a period of over 18 years.

"(She has) acted as more than a mother to the residents and carried out (her) role with love, care and affection - with a sensitivity beyond the call of duty".

The morning had a very convivial atmosphere and it was a treat to watch the guests and residents of Selwyn Segal and Kibbutz Lubner enjoying their morning of food, fun and entertainment.



Magician Gee Whizz with Judy Starfield and Sarah Subel.



The two winners of the Robin Mayer Chessed Award, Kibbutz Lubner's housemothers, Dolores Andrews and Ursula Cowen hold up their certificates for all to see.



Robbie Singer, Lionel Stein and Roland Harris.



Three friends wait for a turn to stroke the white rabbit pulled out of magician Gee Whizz's hat.



Rebbetzen Marcia Tanzer with Berry and Selwyn Noik, Rabbi Avraham Tanzer and Lionel Stein.

COMMUNITY BUZZ

LIONEL SLIER

082-444-9832, fax: 011-440-0448, lionel.slier@absamail.co.za

JOHANNESBURG

Honey Glickman on Sam Gluckman (continued):

"In 1945 Sam matriculated. There were not many avenues of study available, so he did a five year diploma course in pharmacy - one year at the Johannesburg Technical College, opposite Park Station in Eloff Street, then a practical three year apprenticeship and finally a year of study at the college.

"The college a few years later moved near to Ellis Park and was renamed the Witwatersrand Technikon. It is now the Doornfontein campus of the University of Johannesburg (previously the Rand Afrikaans University).

"Sam was apprenticed to the South African Pharmacy in Germiston, owned by the father of Dennis Eisenberg who became a reporter for a major London newspaper and accompanied the then British prime minister, Harold MacMillan, to South Africa when MacMillan made his famous 'Winds of Change' speech in Parliament in Cape Town on February 3, 1960.

"Later Sam was apprenticed to Julian Schlesinger at Leitch and Wilson (originally called Lennons), corner Rissik and Pritchard Streets, Johannesburg, the biggest chemist (as pharmacies were then called) in the city.

"Schlesinger later founded Ned Equity Life Insurance Company, which afterwards became Sage Life.

"In the first year Sam earned five pounds eleven shillings and two pence a month and in his third year this went up to twenty-five pounds.

"At the end of his apprenticeship, Sam went back to college and completed his diploma. He was first in his class in chemistry."

DIAMOND CUTTING

In the middle to late twenties, the diamond cutting industry moved to Johannesburg. The names of some of the firms that opened in Johannesburg follow and unfortunately there are gaps, but this is inevitable as this is based on memory and on events that started over 90 years ago.

Virtually none of the pioneers are with us anymore. In some cases first names cannot be recalled. It was impossible to trace written records.

The first factory was actually started in Pretoria by a Hollander, Louis van der Kar in about 1927. Others followed in Johannesburg, among them Amsterdam Diamond Cutting Works by Harry Messias and Jack Slier.

It was at street level at the corner of Rissik and Noord Streets. Messias and his wife, Griet, ran a boarding house in Hillbrow, where many of the newly-arrived diamond workers, mostly from the Netherlands and Belgium, boarded.

Then there was Phillips Diamond Cutting Works at the corner of Jeppe and End Streets. They also had a factory in Amsterdam.

Others who arrived here during the twenties, thirties and a few in the forties (recalled in no particular order) were Apie de Miranda, Mauritz Canes, Rodrigues, Kagan, Mercado, Groen, Jules van Rijk, Krochmal, Olivier - father and son - Jacques Goldstein and his sons Marcel and Albert (who was to become a major figure in the trade).

The Goldsteins first had a factory upstairs at the corner of Eloff and Plein Streets. Mauritz Canes and Mercado opened up a factory in Commissioner Street diagonally opposite where the South African Diamond Centre now is situated. Canes' sons, Jules and Leo, worked there with their father.

Next door was a large factory opened by David Landau. Kadinsky and Schonfrucht were connected with Landau and so was Gustave (Jack) Katz at one time. Other names in the trade were Bravman, Fransman, Fishgrund, Kleinman, Rozelaar (in Cape Town) Silverberg (in Pretoria) Lek, De Jongh while the Rosenstrauch brothers came via Kimberley and opened Pioneer Diamond Cutting Works.

Others were Teddy Tanner, Mike and Lou Abrahams, the Reichman brothers, Van Creveld, Deutz, Novitz, Piet and Joe Vermey, Jacques Mouw, Dave Marais, Theo and Geoff van Zwam, Veraart, Zlotowski, Albert and Lappeman.

(With apologies to those not recalled).

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Shavuot celebrated in style in Klerksdorp

MARLENE WAKS
PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED

AS USUAL the shul in Klerksdorp was beautifully decorated with leaves and grasses for Shavuot. Unfortunately, as we don't have children, there was no fruit brought into the shul and distributed to the poor. This was always done in the past.

A delicious dairy dinner was served by the women.

The highlight of the evening was celebrating the 94th birthday of Sam Kramer (pictured) who does the davening every night at the minyanim.

In wishing Sam a happy birthday, the chairman, Michael Waks, explained a bit about Shavuot and thanked Sam for all his efforts in keeping the minyanim going and the Friday nights.

There was a lovely heimishe atmosphere in the hall and everyone enjoyed the evening.



World ORT ICT conference is a hit among Jewish studies educators

ARIELLAH ROSENBERG
PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDRYVER

JEWISH STUDIES educators from senior primary and high schools across South Africa, including Eden College in Durban, Theodore Herzl in Port Elizabeth, Yeshiva College Girls High, Torah Academy Girls High, Herzlia in Cape Town, the King David Schools and a representative of the Jewish community from Bulawayo in Zimbabwe, in mid-June attended a four day seminar on information technology resources for Jewish education.

World ORT has been running the Terry and Jean de Gunzburg Jewish Education Seminars since 2008, in cities such as Buenos Aires, Kishinev, Mexico City, Rome and for the second time this year, in Johannesburg.

“The educational landscape is in constant flux. Today’s students and their families have come to expect educators to embrace new technologies and to transform classrooms into modern learning environments.” Dr Jean de Gunzburg, president of World ORT, said.

ORT South Africa, in partnership with the South African Board of Jewish Education, co-hosted the seminar with World ORT at King David Primary School, Linksfield. The seminar was opened by Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein, who emphasised the importance of providing such professional development to Jewish education teachers.

“As a new member of the ORT family, I am amazed and humbled as to the work that both ORT SA and World ORT are doing; it is indeed a privilege and an honour to be part of the ORT family,” Yehuda Kay, CEO of ORT SA, said.



Yehuda Kay, CEO of ORT South Africa; Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein; SAJBE Rabbi Craig Kacev; and organiser of the conference, Ariellah Rosenberg

He added that based on interviews he had with participants from last year’s seminar “all of them felt that their classroom interaction and performance had been greatly improved by the increased use of ICT and by their involvement in the seminar.”

He is positive that “participants will become more professional educators and continue to provide excellent education to our Jewish youth”.

World ORT brought educational experts, including Daniel Tysman, head of education at World ORT from London and Dr Elaine Hoter from Israel, Mofet International Channel and a senior lecturer at Talpiot College, to present at the ICT Seminar on topics ranging from classroom blogging, interactive whiteboards and voice threads to online presentations, GoAnimate and glogging.

ORT SA’s head of educators empowerment, Ariellah Rosenberg, facilitated a workshop on how Jewish studies educators can work collaboratively, which is of specific benefit to the delegates who are physically far removed from their peers.

“As schools grapple with the direction they must take in order to become effective 21st century schools, it is gratifying to know that we have World ORT as a partner. The use of technology in education has become imperative and most of our teachers are not ‘natives’ to this education medium,” Rabbi Craig Kacev, general director of the SABJE, said.

Rabbi Sam Thurgood, head of the Judaica department at Eden College in Durban, said about his experience with attending seminars: “Both last year and this year have given me great tools and resources to make teaching Jewish studies more interesting, more exciting, packed with better content.”

“The seminars have connected me to other Jewish educators around the country and helped us to network ideas and resources. I feel that I, and by extension, my students, have benefitted greatly from this course, which has truly brought the incredible developments of the 21st century into the Jewish studies classroom.”

• For more details about ORT SA, e-mail info@ortsa.org.za , or tel (011) 728-7154.

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ALICE FRIEDMAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR, YAD AHARON

THE CHAGIM are particularly significant to everyone at Yad Aharon because these are times when the wholesome food parcels which are distributed from our bayit on a weekly basis, are supplemented with “extras”, pertinent to each of our festivals.

This would obviously not happen without our volunteer packers who offer their time and services to our organisation with so much love, dedication and sensitivity.

In our “Seasons of Gladness”, the plight of the escalating number of families in our midst is a reality which we, as a niche organisation specialising in food distribution, cannot dismiss or overlook.

For our 560 recipient families, our Yomtov parcels offer a tempo-

rary respite from their world of desperation and depression and, thanks to the generosity of our donors, the sterling service of our suppliers, the tireless efforts of our staff, our fundraisers, Laureen Shalpid and Sonia Margolias and our dedicated team of volunteers, these families are able to, albeit temporarily, join the rest of us in experiencing the magic of the Chagim with dignity and meaning.

For the past three years, Savoy Spar has supplied us with the dry goods which constitute, in the main, our generous and comprehensive Yomtov hampers and it would be remiss of me not to make special mention of Wayne Urdang, Savoy Spar’s dedicated and compassionate store manager.

“Yad Aharon has taught me a tremendous amount about the true meaning of tzedakkah,” comments Wayne. “Its core mission makes the

organisation a logical choice for us to partner, due to its specialist function to distribute food to those who have fallen on hard times.”

Organising and co-ordinating a project of the magnitude of our Pesach distribution, is a truly challenging and overwhelming one and, having someone of Wayne’s calibre to work with, alleviates the pressure tremendously.

The packing operation was, once again, headed up by none other than Eric Cotton whose natural leadership qualities and sense of humour created the characteristic ambiance of camaraderie and enthusiasm among the volunteer packers, which only he can muster.

May Hashem continue to shower His Blessings upon everyone who contributes, in their unique way, to the Ahavas Chesed and Yiras Shamayim upon which Yad Aharon is founded.

AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

NO ISRAEL QUESTION DURING GOP PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

WASHINGTON - Israel was absent as a topic during the first Republican presidential debate in New Hampshire.

Hopefuls Mitt Romney, Newt Gingrich, Tim Pawlenty, Michele Bachmann, Herman Cain and Ron

Paul, discussed the economy, health-care, social issues and other topics during Monday night's two-hour debate at St Anselm College, but a question on the candidates' stance on Israel was conspicuously missing.

The only explicit mention of the

Jewish State came in passing, during one of former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum's answers when he charged President Barack Obama has “turned his back” on America's allies, including Israel. (JTA)

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Jewish Report

Youthful visionaries in SA and ME

PEACE IN South Africa came when FW de Klerk and the Nationalist government realised there was no other option left but to change the country and abandon apartheid. Economically it was on the brink of collapse, and white society was demoralised from years of sanctions and being seen as a “pariah state” worldwide.

Part of the groundwork for change was laid by black youth in the 1976 Soweto riots - commemorated as Youth Day this week Thursday, June 16. Thousands of learners emerged from schools and confronted security forces in the streets - a culmination of the gradual awakening of that generation to its potential power. The limp body of 12-year-old Hector Pieterse being carried by a stunned friend after being shot by police, became a worldwide metaphor for the fight against apartheid. The impact of this defiant image was enormous.

Three and a half decades later, there is peace in South Africa, notwithstanding the country’s many problems. Moreover, a not-insignificant number of the “Soweto generation” are today middle class South Africans - aspiring to the same basics as whites: good education, good medical care, a nice house and car, etc.

There is of course also the flipside - the sad legacy of that time’s militant mantra: “Liberation first, education later!” It manifested in a huge number of have-nots who heeded this call literally, never returned to school and still today pay the price of being virtually illiterate.

Jump to the Middle East. The year 1976 was tense there too: It was three years after the Yom Kippur war and also the year of “Entebbe”, where Israeli commandos flew halfway down Africa to Uganda to rescue Jewish hostages taken by Palestinian terrorists from an El Al plane. Terrorism against Israelis was becoming a constant threat.

Why do the Israeli youth of 1976 - such as those commandos - who are also now middle aged citizens, find their own sons and daughters still fighting in a combat-hardened army, and peace seeming as far removed as it was then? Many Israelis have actually become injured to the conflict, believing there will be no peace in their lifetime, if ever - they must just carry on living their lives.

When current Israeli President Shimon Peres visited Johannesburg in 2002 when he was Israeli foreign minister, he described to a Jewish audience at the Linder Auditorium his belief in earlier years that the South African problem was unsolvable, whereas Israel and its neighbours would in the foreseeable future find a way to peaceful coexistence. Alas, the opposite has happened: South Africa has peace today; Israel does not. Why?

Is it because of the nature of Middle East societies, where expressions of hatred of the “other” (for this read Israel) seem so overwhelmingly embedded? It is the opposite of our African concept of “ubuntu” - even if it is not always applied - which roughly translated means: “My existence and well-being depends on the recognition of others”. Peres remarked at the time that one explanation for the Middle East conflict’s intractability was that there was no equivalent to a Nelson Mandela there.

Is it because of the religious significance of that sliver of real estate called Israel in a region central to the three great Abrahamic faiths, which is also the greatest repository of oil for an energy-hungry world?

Or is it perhaps that Israel’s existence and prosperity in the face of adversity has become an embarrassing metaphor for the Arab world’s impotence to destroy it and develop its own societies comparably? The much-touted “Arab Spring” should be vigorously encouraged, but has yet to produce enduring, positive fruit, and even shows dangers of turning into a “winter of discontent” - witness the dreadful events unfolding in Syria and Libya for example.

South Africa’s history proves there is no such thing as an “unsolvable” conflict. We must hope the younger generations of Israelis and Arabs will see things differently and find how to use their energy to change the course of history also in the Middle East.

OPINION AND ANALYSIS

FORUM FOR DIVERSE VIEWS

With new investments, Israel again is looking to Africa

DINA KRAFT
HERZLIYA, ISRAEL

SOON AFTER Israel itself was born, it began investing significant resources in development assistance in Africa.

Israel’s official development work there waned over the decades, but in recent years Africa again has become a target for Israeli development work by nonprofit organisations and corporations. Particularly in areas like water resource management, agriculture, renewable energy, infrastructure and telemedicine, experts say Israel has much to offer the developing continent.

“In the same way we are a hi-tech power, we can become a development tech power, because our problems are their problems and our expertise fits their needs,” said Aliza Belman Inbal of Tel Aviv University’s Hartog School of Government and Policy.

New thinking is beginning to take root that it is in Israel’s interest both economically and as a tool to boost its international standing to again look toward Africa.

“So many things we do are so relevant for these countries,” she said. “We have the capacity to help Africa in ways other countries cannot and to help build a positive agenda to show Israel can offer good to the world.”

Early Israeli leaders such as Golda Meir had dispatched agricultural and other experts across Africa in a policy that mixed altruism with the hope that newly independent African states might become staunch allies.

The burgeoning interest of Israeli humanitarians, businesspeople and government officials in Africa, can be seen in Israeli medical missions which have gone to the furthest reaches of war-ravaged Democratic Republic of Congo and business pouring resources into developing Africa’s booming cellular phone market, which is the fastest growing in the world.

Small nongovernmental organisations are getting involved, like Jewish Heart for Africa, which introduced Israeli solar technologies to produce electricity in orphanages, schools and clinics in Uganda, Tanzania and Malawi.

“Israelis really do like to share their know-how, and we believe in helping build African communities,” said Shachar Zahavi, executive director of IsraAID, a consortium of Israeli and Jewish aid organisations that work in developing countries, including those like Japan and Haiti that require disaster assistance.

“We are seeing both a younger generation of Israelis who during their post-army travels want to do something meaningful with their time abroad seek out volunteering,” Zahavi said, “and at the same time we are seeing more and more companies looking to build and adapt their products for the developing world.”

On May 29, several hundred people gathered in Herzliya for an IsraAID-organised conference on Israeli involvement in Africa. Bob Geldof, the Irish rock singer who staged the 1985 Live Aid concert for famine relief in Africa and its 2005 counterpart advocating for debt relief, delivered the keynote address.

“It’s a great thing you are doing today because the world knows that this region is convulsed in its own problems,” Geldof said. In his speech, he urged Israel not to use the Israeli-Arab conflict as an excuse to refrain from engaging in the developing world.

“The Jewish people for centuries have used their intellect and culture to be open — that’s what you guys do,” said Geldof, who had a Jewish grandmother. “Do not be forced from turning away from the world.”

Israel’s development aid to Africa shrunk to its current low levels following the 1973 Yom Kippur War, when most African states severed ties with Israel. That ended a period in which Israel sent some 5 000 experts in agriculture, water management and other fields throughout the developing world.

Mashav, the Israeli government agency responsible for aid programmes, was one of the largest departments in the Foreign Ministry in the 1960s, but its budget has shrunk drastically. Today, Israel gives markedly less in overseas aid according to gross national income than most of its counterparts in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Israel currently has relatively little trade targeted toward Africa. In 2010, Israeli exports to Africa excluding diamonds reached \$1,3 billion, as compared to \$8,4 billion to Asia or \$12,7 billion to the United States, according to Dan Catarivas, director of the foreign trade division of the Israeli Manufacturers Association.

But Africa’s potential as one of the world’s fastest growing economic areas is beginning to attract attention by Israeli and international firms.

A recent report by McKinsey, the international consulting firm, suggested that the future survival of global

companies will depend on their ability to focus on what they term “innovation to win in low-cost, high-growth countries” like those found in Africa. According to McKinsey, in the next decade such emerging-market economies, now on the sidelines, will become central global economic players.

Signs of change are already here. There are many Israeli companies in Africa involved in building roads and hospitals and working in water management and medicine.

The Israeli irrigation company Netafim introduced low-pressure, low-cost drip irrigation systems for subsistence farmers, providing them with enough water to raise crops year round.

“We are a private company and our luck is that we are doing well by doing good by giving answers to problems like hunger,” said Naty Barak, head of sustainable development at Netafim.

In a Kenyan village called Kitui, Barak said that 200 poor, small-scale vegetable growers who adopted Netafim’s product saw a 140 per cent increase of harvested yield and a 200 per cent increase in income while saving about 60 per cent of water resources. Previously, they had irrigated crops by hauling water from wells.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry also is becoming involved, inviting African business delegations to Israel to learn more about its industries and twinning economic attaches at Israeli embassies in Africa with Israeli companies to help scope out opportunities.

“We are sending the message that it is good to do business with Africa,” Rafael Harpaz, director of the ministry’s economic department that deals with the Americas and Africa, told JTA. “There is potential to grow, and we are looking for new markets to trade with. If the Israeli economy is going to grow, it needs these new markets.”

To that end, the Foreign Trade Administration, a department within the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labour, is seeking new policies that will help harness Israel’s competitive advantage in the developing world, including Africa.

Jewish Heart for Africa said that bringing Israeli know-how to Africa was particularly attractive to its donor base of young American Jews.

“Young donors like our projects,” said Sivan Borowich Ya’ari, the organisation’s founder and president, “because we are not only helping Africa but helping Israel by helping the Israeli economy and Israel’s image.” (JTA)



In early 2010, the Embassy of Israel in Cameroon, collaboratively ran an on-the-spot training course on Irrigation Water Management and Efficient Irrigation Technology at Ngyen Mbo in the North West Region of Cameroon. Pictured are the course’s participants, hailing from farming communities in the region. (PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY WWW.YAOUNDE.MFA.GOV.IL)

The right not to be thrown into the sea

THIS MONTH marked the 44th anniversary of one of the most momentous miracles of modern times, when little Israel, facing annihilation at the hands of its enemies, emerged triumphant in the 1967 Six Day War.

Existential fear quickly dissolved into breath-taking joy as the Jewish State vanquished its foes, reuniting Jerusalem and reclaiming large swathes of our ancient homeland.

Our adversaries, who had gleefully pledged to feed us to the fish in the Mediterranean Sea, were forced to look on as their troops beat a hasty and humiliating retreat.

The stunning victory of 1967 had all the markings of Divine intervention. It was a gift from Heaven to a besieged and beleaguered people.

After nearly two millennia we were reunited at last with the cradle of Jewish civilisation in Judea and Samaria, and with the heart of the nation, the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

And yet, it seems, more than four decades later, many Jews and Israelis still just cannot forgive themselves for winning.

In what has become an annual ritual, a variety of media pundits, left-wing activists and even some officials launch into mournful sessions of hand-wringing and breast-beating. They bemoan the outcome of the Six Day War, grumble about Israel's success in reclaiming Judea, Samaria and eastern Jerusalem, and sound as if they would have preferred going down in defeat.

Displaying an extraordinary lack of appreciation and an exceptional lack of historical perspective, these critics long to give up the hard-earned fruits of that war of self-defence to the Palestinians, all in the vain hope of mollifying an incorrigible foe.

How could so many forget so much in so short a time?

It seems the only way to explain this phenomenon is to borrow a term from psychology: Certain parts of the Israeli public and world Jewry are clearly suffering from what I refer to as “Battered Nation Syndrome”.



FUNDAMENTALLY
FREUND
MICHAEL FREUND

Like a victim of ongoing domestic abuse, the advocates of surrender to the Palestinians cannot muster the wherewithal to hit back at the abuser. All the hallmarks of the syndrome are there.

Naturally, this distorted world view results in an almost obsessive focus on Israel's perceived faults as lying at the root of the conflict with our neighbours.

Consequently, the actions of the Palestinians are downplayed and minimised, excused and ignored, and Israel's policy-making process instead begins to resemble a good, ol'-fashioned, self-inflicted guilt trip.

But it is time to break out of this collective funk and start viewing the world the way it really is.

To begin with, Israel should stop apologising for defeating the Arab states in 1967. Like any other nation, we have the right to defend ourselves, and we have the right not to be thrown into the sea.

What many of the defeatists conveniently choose to ignore is what led up to the 1967 war: increased Palestinian terror, massive Arab military buildups, and public threats by Arab leaders to annihilate the Jewish State.

They also forget that two years prior to 1967, back when Israel did not yet “occupy” the territories, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol put forward a proposal that could have resolved the Arab-Israeli conflict once and for all.

Speaking to the Knesset on May 17, 1965, Eshkol suggested turning the 1949 armistice agreements into peace treaties, and offered to hold direct talks with the Arab states in order to do so.

Pointing out that Egypt, Jordan, Syria and

Lebanon combined had 60 times the land area of the Jewish State, the premier noted that there was no logical reason for the Arabs to continue to pursue war.

Instead, he offered a vision of peace that included open borders, bilateral trade, economic co-operation and freedom of access to the holy sites.

All he asked in return, said Eshkol, was “full respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all the states in the region”.

But Israel's offer of peace was met two years later with a clear and unequivocal Arab response. Egypt and Syria mobilised their armies and their people, and vowed to destroy the Jewish state.

Fortunately, with G-d's help, we were able to defeat them, depriving our enemies of the territorial platform from which they had sought our destruction.

Instead of grumbling about the result, we should be rejoicing in it.

The fact is that Israel neither asked for war nor initiated it in 1967, so let's stop acting like we did.

We do not owe the Arabs anything for defeating them, and we certainly do not need to give them any further territory from which to attack us.

They tried to kill us. We won. Get over it.

WELCOME TO THE JEWISH REPORT FOLD

From this week, we welcome columnist Michael Freund from Israel, who will contribute to our paper on a monthly basis.

Founder and Chairman of Shavei Israel (www.shavei.org), an organisation focused on aiding “lost Jews” to rediscover or renew their links to the people of Israel, Freund writes a syndicated column and feature stories for the Jerusalem Post.

A native of New York, he has served as deputy director of communications and policy planning in the Prime Minister's Office under Benjamin Netanyahu, and holds an MBA in finance from Columbia University and a BA from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. - Editor

AROUND THE
WORLD
NEWS IN BRIEF

31 SENATORS SIGN
RESOLUTION AGAINST
1967 BORDERS

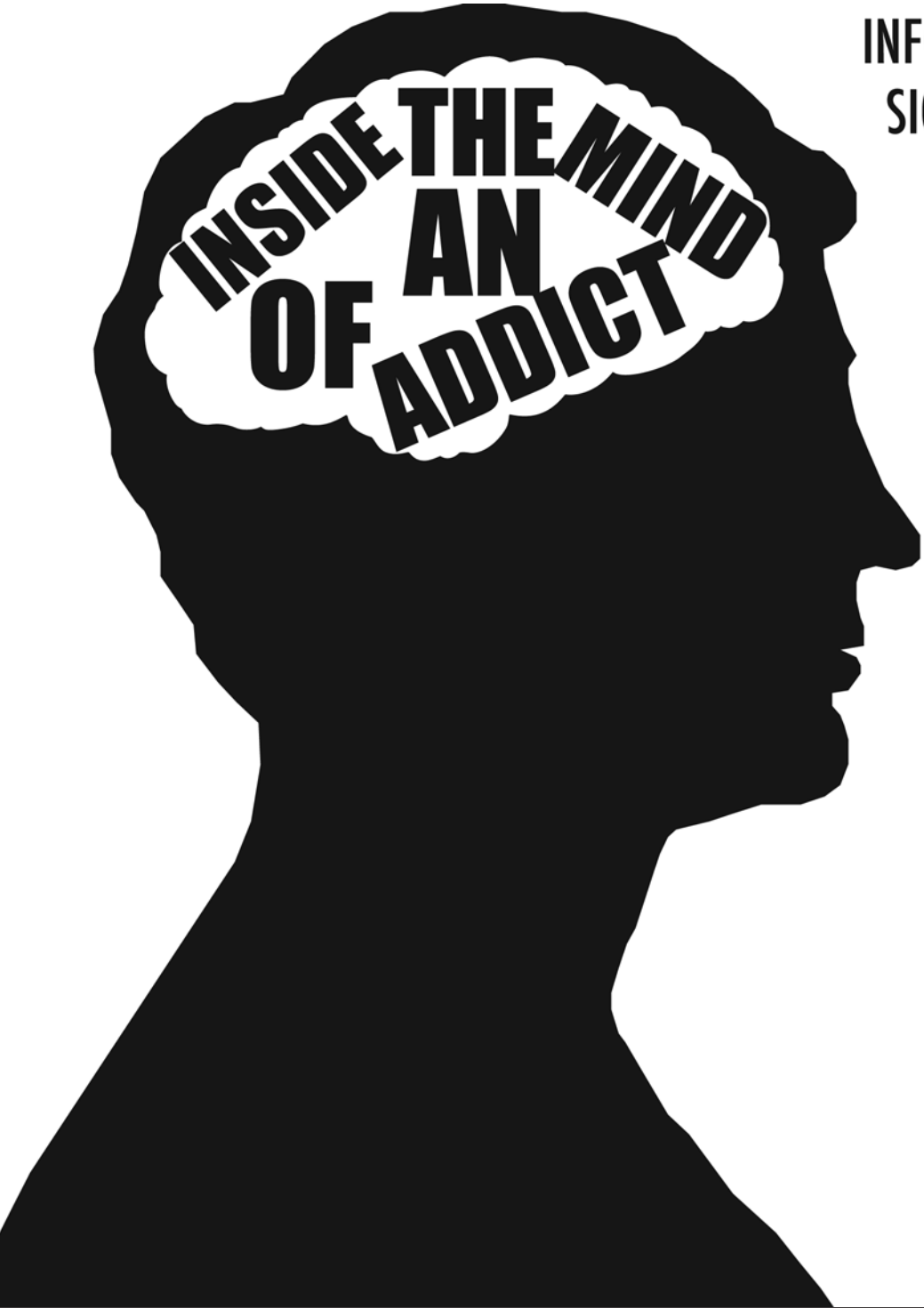
WASHINGTON - US Senators Orrin Hatch (Republican Utah) and Joe Lieberman (Independent Connecticut) have introduced a resolution calling an Israeli return to 1967 lines "contrary to United States policy and national security".

The resolution introduced on June 9, is co-signed by 29 other senators, including at least two Democrats, Ron Wyden of Oregon and Ben Nelson of Nebraska.

It declares "that it is the policy of the United States to support and facilitate Israel in maintaining defensible borders and that it is contrary to United States policy and national security to have the borders of Israel return to the armistice lines that existed on June 4, 1967".

In a major Mideast policy speech last month, President Barack Obama called for peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians to be restarted on the basis of 1967 borders with "mutually agreed upon land swaps".

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has rejected these borders as a starting point, calling them "indefensible". The Palestinians say they will not return to the negotiating table unless the 1967 borders are used as the basis for discussing borders in the negotiations. (JTA)



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Anstey’s Building, Johannesburg: Urban Arts Platform hosts Youth in the City: On June 17, the theme is “Free in the City”, featuring workshops with Gina Cooperman, Ntshieng Mokgoro and Adam Golding, 072-124-4111.

Adler Museum of Medicine, Parktown: “Reflect”, an exhibition by Elaine Hirschowitz, until July 11, (011) 717-2067.

Circa, Rosebank: two exhibitions: “Weapons of Mass Destruction” by Ronit Judelman; “Living on a Horizon” by Ann Gollifer, until July 10, (011) 788-4805.

Foxwood Theatre, Houghton: “De Pinna’s Dinner Detectives”, with Michael de Pinna and Lolly Somnez, Wednesdays and Saturdays through June, (011) 486-0935.

Iziko: South African National Museum, Cape Town: “Tretchikoff: The People’s Painter”, curated by Andrew Lamprecht, until September 25, (021) 481-3970.

Joburg Theatre Complex, Braamfontein: In the Nelson Mandela, SA Ballet Theatre performs “Romeo and Juliet”, until June 19. In the Fringe, “Doo Bee Boobies”, until June 26, (011) 877-6800. In the People’s Theatre, “Alice in Wonderland”, until August 7, (011) 403-1563.

Kalk Bay Modern, Kalk Bay: Sculpture and ceramics, including work by Lisa Firer, Clementina van der Walt and Wilma Cruise and others until July 15, (021) 788-6571.

Market Theatre, Newtown: Back by popular demand, Athol Fugard’s “Sizwe Banzi is Dead”, directed by Monageng Motshabi, from June 21, (011) 832-1641.

National Children’s Theatre, Parktown: “A Pocket Oliver Twist”, directed by Joyce Levinsohn and Francois Theron, until July 23, (011) 484-1584.

Old Mutual Theatre on the Square, Sandton: A potted version of Gilbert and Sullivan’s “Pirates of Penzance” directed by Greg Homann, until July 9; Friday lunchtime concert features Isabel Bradley (flute), Peta-Ann Holdcroft (‘cello) and Susan van der Wat (piano) on June 17, (011) 883-8606.

Standard Bank Gallery, Johannesburg: “Listening to Distant Thunder”, a Peter Clarke retrospective, until July 2, (011) 631-1889.

Wits University Campus, Braamfontein: In the Origins Centre, “A Stone Carpet Reflected: Fragments from a Glacial Pavement”, by Chonat Getz and Collin Cole, until June 30, (011) 717-4700.

TAPESTRY

ART, BOOKS, DANCE, FILM, THEATRE

Amateurish display jars in overall good body of work

Exhibition: “Reflect” (Adler Museum of Medicine, Parktown, (011) 717-2081)
Artist: Elaine Hirschowitz
Until: July 11

REVIEWED BY ROBYN SASSEN

JOSTLING FOR your attention in the stifling space displaying not only pilules and machines from medicine’s nascent years, but also a fine selection of contemporary local art, Hirschowitz’s exhibition is not difficult to find - at least the first part of it - but it’s bigger than it seems.

Hirschowitz began her professional life as an occupational therapist in 1957. Twenty three years later, she attained her Master’s in clinical psychology, and in 2005, an advanced diploma in fine art. But a list of her academic achievements does not explain her evolution as an artist. Her work does.

The work reflects on illness that has left the body and meditates on how the body must boost itself from that demon but also how the mind sometimes evokes a flirtation with those shadows.

The show is thwarted and bolstered curatorially.

There is no logical flow between the areas in which it is shown: it was only out of curiosity for the medical displays, after perusing the work in the glass-clad downstairs space, that I discovered more of her work upstairs.

This, together with the odd decision to display framed work on easels, makes the show feel amateurish. But look at the works; overriding outside issues enables you to sidestep this perception.

Having said that, the environment engaging with things medical, embraces Hirschowitz’s work well. Given the theme of illness, much of her work features the body. Drawing the nude allows her to explore her medium with a dripping technique in several pieces. This challenges the body’s stability, rendering it uncomfortingly melting.

It is, however, the work from her “Shadows from my Past” series that are not only more provocative than the figure studies, but works in which Hirschowitz comes into her own. They’re monoprints, printed on an intaglio press, which means they look like etchings.

They have wonderful plays of texture in their compositions, and veil joy with sinister engaging-



Elaine Hirschowitz’s ‘Rejuvenation’, Giclée print. Photograph by Sidney Hirschowitz.

ly, while skirting traditions of bodily representation that reflect on San culture excitingly.

The finest piece is a work upstairs, “Spectral Converse”. Predominantly yellow and with found and drawn texture, it reflects a teetering between life and death. It is the simple ink line drawing describing the person in the foreground that highlights Hirschowitz’s skill. Unlike in her other drawings, the line here is delicate and unerring.

The exhibition is a mixed bag. The culling of several pieces would have yielded a tighter show. But Hirschowitz’s unequivocal status as a bold and aggressive experimenter, rings clear.

Maybe more practice time was needed for this concert

Concert: The Green-Harrold Piano Duo & The Odeion String Quartet (Linder)
Programme: Music by Mozart, Schubert, Schumann and Shostakovich

REVIEWED BY PAUL BOEKKOOI

BLIND DATES on a musical level may even be more complicated than those in real life. The coming together of the Green-Harrold Piano Duo from Australia and the Odeion String Quartet from Bloemfontein, was the result of cultural, diplomatic and economic processes between two countries which are usually shrouded in secrecy.

Their combined concert, made up of two minor piano duets and two major piano quintets in the repertoire, had its inspiring moments, but also some uncomfortable ones. Regarding the Schumann and especially the Shostakovich quintets, there was perhaps neither the time nor the potential for the interpretations to fully mature.

Coady Green and Leigh Harrold opened with Mozart’s Sonata for Piano Duet in D major, K 381. In the outer movements they were inclined to push the tempo forward to favour a ruthless approach

and showing a rigidity which in this sonata resulted in a singularly charmless performance.

If no form of fantasy is introduced into Mozart’s energetic note spinning, it becomes boring, or worse: didactic. The Andante, although slightly restless, was better conceived.

In Schubert’s repetitive Allegro: Lebensstürme, D 947 the dramatic elements in this duet were energetically characterised, but its phrases of introspective, questioning discourse went by the board, leaving emotions hardly touched.

Leigh Harrold joined the Odeion Quartet for a performance of Schumann’s Piano Quartet in E flat major, Opus 44 - the composer’s major chamber work providing not only a vivid interaction between the pianist and string quartet, but also between Florestan and Eusebius, the composer’s fictionalised men of action and dreams.

Harrold seems to have the right kind of personality for this work and he formed a genuine partnership with his South African colleagues. His piano sound is less bright than that of Green, but suited Schumann’s sound world perfectly, although the contrasts between “action and dreams” could be stronger.

Alas, should the drawing board tilt...

Show: “Dinner Detectives” Foxwood Theatre, Houghton, (011) 486-0935
Cast: Michael de Pinna, Lolly Somnez.
Until: June 25; on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and June 17

REVIEWED BY ROBYN SASSEN

BRINGING DOMESTIC parlour games to a professional stage is interesting on paper, as is the idea of reigning in audiences. But as you will learn from Michael de Pinna - immortalised by those “Yebo Gogo” Vodacom ads - the drawing board can tilt unexpectedly.

Dinner Detectives offers a delicious array of characters, cabaret, cuisine and comedy, but, fed by inter-

nal arteries of audience participation, to the tune of 10 murder suspects, all scripted with political diatribe, it is weakened by too many words which require accents, and audience members who think they can act.

Unashamedly colonial in context, it plays into the tradition of murder mystery; there’s nothing like a rollicking good murder to keep the literature sexy.

Sadly, the novelty of Dinner Detectives, spiced as it is with Somnez’s deadpanned nuances hilariously, lasts until the main course of the three-course meal. At this point, flaws in the writing become evident; rather than funny or even spooky, the piece rests on cloying cliché; you’re relieved rather than shocked to learn whodunnit.



Michael de Pinna as Major Cynthia Schoeman-Khumalo. (PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY FOXWOOD THEATRE)



FELDMAN
ON FILM

Peter Feldman

PICK OF THE WEEK

Source Code

Cast: Jake Gyllenhaal; Vera Farmiga; Michelle Monaghan; and Jeffrey Wright
Director: Duncan Jones

“Source Code” is one of the most fascinating films I’ve seen in a long time. It’s been labelled science fiction, but the science element is somewhat incredible. It will drive you crazy trying to work it all out – and just enjoy director Duncan Jones’ ingenious production.

A young man, Captain Colter Stevens (Jake Gyllenhaal), suddenly wakes up on a Chicago

train and has no earthly idea how he got there.

The pretty woman sitting across from him, played by Michelle Monaghan, knows who he is and they soon engage in conversation. She calls him Sean, but it’s not his name. And when he goes to the toilet, and looks in the mirror, he discovers to his horror that the face looking back at him isn’t his own.

Stevens is part of a secret government experiment called “Source Code”. This enables him to cross over into Sean’s identity in the last eight minutes of Sean’s life.

Each time he goes through the same time patterns on the train he has to gather more clues. It’s a mystery like you’ve never seen before.

Gyllenhaal is a commanding presence as the decorated combat pilot recruited for this special assignment, one in which his consciousness is projected into a passenger on the train, so that he can relive Sean’s last moments.

Stevens has been specifically placed in this position with the onerous task of identifying the individual responsible for blowing up the train

and everybody on it. If he finds the man he will have prevented an even worse disaster from happening in the future. And the clock is ticking.

The story’s loop may sound like “Groundhog Day” on speed, where everything that happens in one day is constantly being repeated, but “Source Code” navigates its own parameters.

The narrative progresses as Stevens’ superiors keep sending him back onto the train to relive those last eight minutes. Each return visit is slightly different. Each trip is equally urgent and frantic. The situation is difficult because Stevens has to find the guilty party among hundreds of passengers - and he’s fighting time.

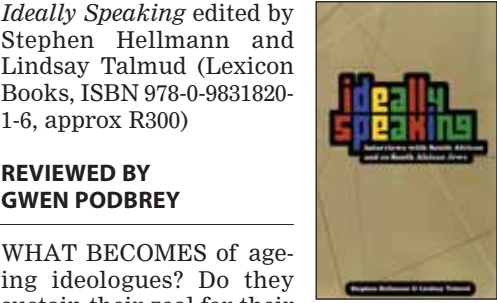
Vera Farmiga, as Goodwin, the officer conducting the experiment, does a solid job treading a soldier’s path from cold efficiency to humanity, Jeffrey Wright, as the ambitious scientist, provides some glimpse into a man’s twisted soul.

It’s tense and exciting, but you will have to stay with the programme, to keep abreast of the many intricacies embedded in the unfolding drama.

Future science? It certainly makes one think.

TAPESTRY – ART, BOOKS, DANCE, FILM, THEATRE

Ideologues look back thoughtfully



Ideally Speaking edited by Stephen Hellmann and Lindsay Talmud (Lexicon Books, ISBN 978-0-9831820-1-6, approx R300)

REVIEWED BY GWEN PODBREY

WHAT BECOMES of ageing ideologues? Do they sustain their zeal for their causes through the years, or do life and the “thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to” dilute their ardour?

In this book, Stephen Hellmann and Lindsay Talmud ask 44 South African-born Jews - some still in this country, others living in Israel or elsewhere - to explain what time has done to their idealism, whether this was directed at battling apartheid, embracing Zionism by settling in Israel, or living the “chalutzit” dream by joining a kibbutz.

The interviewees include the likes of Benjamin Pogrund, Shula Marks, Leon and Lorna Levy and Gideon Shimoni.

In a significant number of cases, the respondents’ ideologies and values were informed both by traditional Jewish home values and Jewish youth movements. Habonim Dror, for example, triggered many youngsters’ intellectual awakening, conscientised them about issues of socio-political injustice and engendered several generations of young olim, who saw in Zionism a socialist element offering a comparatively equitable way of life.

For some, this extended into full-flung communism, which - in a post-Second World War decade of disorder, poverty and torpor - seemed the logical answer to the world’s ills. For others, choosing a lifestyle close to the earth on a kibbutz, seemed the ultimate commitment to a new and purposeful existence.

Today, however, as Israel battles for democratic credibility in the face of overwhelming global criticism, the narrative of the Zionist ideal has lost much of its lustre for many of its former starry-eyed adherents. So has the “sunshine Zionism” portrayed by chalutzik recruitment posters.

A number of former kibbutzniks interviewed here, recall

their frustration at the arbitrary, often absurd, extremes to which communes would go in their insistence on maintaining “equality”, even on petty levels.

In many cases, young South African Jews saw Zionism as a cause more their “own” than that of apartheid. Besides, as several interviewees admit, opting to pursue the Zionist dream offered a convenient (and relatively safe) escape from the more immediate injustices of apartheid, which the vast majority of the South African Jewish community chose not to protest.

This acquiescence is roundly condemned by many of Hellmann and Talmud’s interlocutors. “By the late ’70s, every other community in the country was shouting the odds, quite courageously. For the Jews to have joined in would not have jeopardised them in the slightest,” comments Dennis Davis.

Steven Ascheim, now director of the Franz Rosenzweig Research Centre for German Literature and Cultural History at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, elaborates the point. “I was not going to risk my neck. So there was never a question of my joining a militantly active, anti-apartheid organisation. And this dovetailed very nicely with my Zionism...”

“I have buckled under here (in Israel, by not actively protesting the occupation of Gaza) and I buckled there, so I can’t criticise. We, the Habonim boys, buckled in South Africa. We all rationalised that that was not our struggle.”

Ascheim further criticises the Habonim movement for obscuring the injustice which Zionism necessarily entailed. “We (Habonim Zionists) presented ourselves as being completely against racism, utterly for political and social justice in South Africa...”

“The shock was the realisation about our own narcissistic myopia, our empathy with the victims of apartheid and our inability to empathise with those who were displaced by our social (Zionist) project,” he says.

Closer to home, the ideal of the New South Africa, for which many young Jewish activists risked life

and limb, now appears to be submerged in a seemingly bottomless mire of corruption, crime and - most alarmingly - racist pan-Africanism (which flies directly in the face of one of the ANC’s founding principles of inclusiveness).

Some interviewees express their sense of betrayal; others their fearfulness about South Africa’s future. None, however, regret their participation in the Struggle, however flawed the present condition of the state.

In his epilogue, Stephen Hellmann himself ponders the natural regrets felt for the paths both taken and not taken, and “how twisted and filled with contradiction the road travelled from heady youth movement to ‘mature’ scepticism and doubt has been”.

He marvels, too, at the insouciance - even arrogance - which fuelled his young convictions. “How easy it would have been, at the age of 18, to dismiss Yehuda Amichai’s suggestion that ‘From the place where we are right, flowers will never grow’ - and how difficult it is today, at 64, to deny that.”

Echoing this, Selma Browde - despite the fact that her energies remain unflagging in working towards a better South Africa - declares: “Now, at the age of 81, I realise you cannot tilt at windmills all your life. You have to accept.”

The interviewees also reflect on the obsolescence of much of the ideology which once drove them, as well as the perils of indoctrination.

“Ideology has often caused more harm than good,” says Alan Apter, now director of the Child and Adolescent Division, Schneider Children’s Medical Centre of Israel. “Ideologists seem to be able to suspend their social consciences. The ideology becomes more important than the people... The minute people start saying that for socialism, for religion, or for the land of Greater Israel they have to do one thing or another, that is when people start killing one another. Ideologies are dangerous.”

Concisely edited and thoughtfully constructed, the book is sometimes nostalgic, often startling, and Hellmann and Talmud elicit a level of candour which makes it as compelling as it is instructive.

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Whole of JPO shares in this triumph

Concert: Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra (Linder)
Conductor: Bernhard Gueller
Programme: Music by JS Bach and Mahler

REVIEWED BY PAUL BOEKKOOI

FORGETTABLE BACH, impressive Mahler. Does more need to be said? Yes, certainly.

About Bach’s Suite No 1 in C major, BWV 1066 one can be brief. It was the opposite of a yardstick for placement, élan,

and for promoting the kind of inner muscularity driving Bach’s rhythms into an infectious whirl of vitality and natural, graceful phrasing. The playing suffered from muscular dystrophy. It sounded too romantic and un-Baroque like.

The Mahler Symphony No 5 in C sharp minor was solidly on the opposite spectrum: Great potency and staying power for a full 70 minutes. Gueller sees the work as a whole, building each movement with total concentration.

This experience hit at full force, be it in the exuberant, pointed account of the third-movement Scherzo, the deeply hushed expansive Adagietto, or the headlong reading of the Rondo-Finale, which, even at a thrillingly high tempo, had irresistible swagger.

Each member of the JPO shared in this triumph. They’ve seldom before achieved such artistic unity in combination with a careful clarification of texture - especially in a work with such a basically optimistic trajectory.

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C A P I T A L



Hobbies, collectables & recreation

Compiled by Marlene Bilewitz. Contact (011) 023-8160, Cell 083-475-0288 or e-mail: marlene@sajewishreport.co.za



Hobbies can be lucrative and enjoyable

BARRY BILEWITZ

COLLECTING THINGS you enjoy can be a great hobby. It can also be very profitable and educational. Any well-constructed or carefully crafted item has the possibility of being a collectable, as well as items collected for their rarity, beauty, etc, such as stamps or fountain pens.

As has been said, its value will depend on its rarity and very often, its aesthetic value.

Collectables range from antique silver, to quality old paintings, to vintage and veteran motorvehicles; from misprinted stamps to old vinyl records. There is even a demand for excellent art forgeries and matchboxes or wine labels!

People collect for two reasons: Investment, or a passion for a

specific type of item. Very often these two reasons converge.

Märklin began producing tin toys over 150 years ago. They evolved into one of the world's great manufacturers of model railway systems. In 2005 a rare hand-painted "Märklin Central Station" with a #2509 engine, was sold for \$110 000. Famous South African artists are achieving good prices internationally. A few weeks ago, an Irma Stern was sold in London for R34 million.

People often narrow the focus of their collections, especially if the category is a broad one, for instance paintings by recognised masters. One may, for example, restrict your collecting to the watercolours of English impressionists, or the acrylics of modern surrealists.

Similarly, a motor enthusiast may specialise in Italian sports cars from the 1950s.

The art, and/or science, of being a collector for investment, is perception, for instance the ability to recognise the intrinsic future value of an item. Sometimes a talent is so obvious that recognition occurs within the lifetime of the artist, as in the cases of Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci. Vincent van Gogh only sold one of his paintings during his lifetime - and died in poverty.

Was there a coin collector in the 1930s who stocked up on the 1931 South African tickey, one of which recently sold for R70 000? It was in fact, quite a worn example of the coin with its limited edition.

Did anyone in the mid-19th century know what the Mauritius Blue Penny/Red Penny would be worth, 150 years later? It is one of the rarest stamps in the world; 240 of these stamps were sold before it was realised that words on the stamp should read "Post Paid" and not "Post Office". Its approximate value is £1 million.

A rare poster advertising Fritz Lang's 1927 film "Metropolis", was sold in 2005 for the sum of \$690 000. On a more modern note, the original posters for Quentin Tarantino's movie "Pulp Fiction" had to be recalled as they showed a pack of "Lucky Strike" cigarettes in the photo and Philip Morris threatened to sue for using it without permission.

The recalled poster sells for over \$1 000 and the new one, showing a generic cigarette pack, for \$100.

"Z" is for Zippo the windproof lighter from Pennsylvania. The 2011 models still have the same shape as the first one made in 1933 and each one still carries a lifetime guarantee.

Zippo has put tens of thousands of different images on its lighters in its more than 75 years of production.



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HOBBIES, COLLECTABLES & RECREATION

Meccano - an enduring value of enjoyment



IF YOU enjoyed the privilege of owning Meccano as a youngster, then just that single word almost certainly evokes memories of happy times; time maybe spent with your father, unpacking a new set and sitting with him overseeing the construction of your first Meccano model. Happy times spent playing with your creation.

Meccano, for those who did not grow up with this ever-popular “construction set”, is the toy with metal strips and girders, with regular hole spacings and an array of nuts, bolts and gears. But it is so much more than that!

It certainly does have great play value, but it really shines as a medium to convert imagination into reality. Develop and build a concept into a model. Take it apart and build something bigger, better and different by using the same parts. Repeat the process... Meccano is the ultimate reusable product.

Why do you think Dad is so handy with a screwdriver and always seems to be able to fix those finicky gadgets around the house? It is probably because he had Meccano as a child: handling Meccano at an early age develops hand-eye co-ordination.

Meccano has 100+ years of continuous set production. All parts are compatible, even new parts with those from the early days. Modern times call for flashy packaging, new parts, new manufacturing and new ideas, but it is still the same great product that you remember.

Applicable from ages eight to 88, youngsters and retirees alike, still enjoy this enduring hobby today.

Nothing beats the experience of opening a new Meccano set and building a model in shiny new parts. Try specialist toy stores or Prima Toys, the importer, at www.primatoys.co.za for outlets that stock Meccano.

If you are serious about Meccano as a hobby, then why not contact the Johannesburg Meccano Hobbyists Club? You will find plenty of support in the form of ideas, tips, classic collection pointers and a regular publication: asels@wbs.co.za.

For those with petrol in their veins

Motorbooks South Africa is a specialist retailer aimed at the automotive and mechanical enthusiast. It has been in existence since 1970, when it started importing workshop manuals from all over the world.

IT HAS become a household name among professional car repair workshops, DIY motorists and car enthusiasts. It receives enquiries from all over southern Africa and specialises in mail order.

There are some 8 000 automotive-related books and a few hundred models are in stock at all times, also a vast range of automotive DVDs and a growing collection of automotive art. The art is mostly prints from world-renowned artists such as Nicholas Watts, Roger Blanchard, Alan Fearnley and Chris Dugan.

The books cover all automotive topics - technical, historical, design, art, restoration, motor sport in all its facets.

The technical books range from the popular Haynes workshop manuals aimed at the DIY motorist, to the very technical books on building engines for competition use. among others. Historical books often cover a specific marque such as Mercedes Benz.

Motorbooks' model collection ranges from the very affordable offerings by Maisto, Revell, Yat Ming, and the excellent value-for-money AutoArt and Minichamps models, to the top-of-the-range Exoto and CMC masterpieces. It also offers a service to find you that elusive model that you have desired and searched for, but never been able to locate.

With the development of the website into a fully-fledged virtual store, Motorbooks is also hoping to attract more female shoppers in

search of a gift for a man. Most men appreciate the beauty of a well-manufactured die-cast scale model. Such a model often gets a place of honour on a desk or bookshelf - a reminder of the giver for years to come.

Motorbooks caters for all pockets - from R50 for a 1/43 (Dinky toy size) model to the 1/12th or even sometimes 1/8th scale models selling for R4 000 or more. Books range from about R250 to over R3 000.

- For further information, contact Dewald Basson at 083-441-3237 or you can email us at dewald@motorbooks.co.za.s Motorbooks always welcomes input from fellow enthusiasts as to the type of item they would like to see in the shop.

Wishing ALL father's, "Happy Father's Day"

Available at Toys R Us stores nationwide

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Motorbooks
the red planet

The Colony,
345 Jan Smuts Avenue,
Craighall, Johannesburg
www.motorbooks.co.za
Tel. 0861 113 947

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HOBBIES, COLLECTABLES & RECREATION



For stoneware of distinction, the name is Le Creuset
The Le Creuset stoneware range adds charm to any table or kitchen.

THE VIRTUALLY non-porous stoneware is durable and chip-resistant due to its two coats of glazed enamel and four firings that it goes through.

The result is a collection of stoneware cookware pieces that look great and perform exceptionally well.

Le Creuset's traditional stoneware performs beautifully in the microwave and oven. Its classic design lends a distinctive charm to the table. For more information visit www.lecreuset.co.za or national sharecall 0861 77 33 21.

Le Creuset stoneware makes the perfect gift. Some new products that have arrived are:

Le Creuset mugs and espresso mugs: These you won't want to share. Incredibly stylish and striking, it is available in a variety of colours.

Pestle and mortar: Maximise flavour by

grinding spices and herbs with this invaluable kitchen tool. Making your own spice mix from freshly roasted and ground whole spices will enhance even the simplest recipe.

The generous 0,5 litre capacity contains ingredients well, gives space for stirring and allows further ingredients to be added to the ground spices. The unglazed interior and pestle tip create the perfect surface for efficiency. A grip indentation on the side wall offers a convenient thumb rest when grinding.

Square deep casserole dish: Prepare a delicious meal for the whole family in this colourful and practical 100 per cent stoneware covered deep square dish.

New cherry deep heart casserole: Durable and sturdy, yet fun and colourful, this coveted heart casserole is perfect for any occasion.

It has a rimmed edge for easy handling and a convenient lid for baking and storing. Le Creuset heart-shaped dishes add charm to anniversaries, birthdays, and Valentine's Day dinners. Not suitable for use on the hob.

Cream and sugar sets: The essential ingredients to ensure your tea or coffee tastes its best may be sugar, milk or cream, but the finishing touch is how it is served. Give your guests a treat with these stylish milk jug and sugar bowl.

The jug has a capacity of 600ml and comes with an easy pour spout and comfortable handle. The sugar bowl has a capacity of 50ml and comes with a convenient lid to preserve sugar and a spoon. Both the jug and sugar bowl look as good as the job they are made for and will make tea time a real pleasure.

Great cooking boils down to ingredients - the

better the ingredients you choose, the better the results. Le Creuset will help you make the most of your ingredients just as we've made the most of ours.

Le Creuset offers cookware in a wide range of colours. Bright vibrant colours, pastels and neutrals, from the most classical to the most contemporary, enabling you to match your cookware to your home décor and tableware. Visit us at www.lecreusetshop.co.za or www.lecreuset.co.za for more information on the Le Creuset range.

- Visit your nearest Le Creuset Boutique Store Killarney Mall (011) 646-6316, Bedford Centre (011) 615-1923, Hyde Park Shopping Centre (011) 325-5606, Brooklyn Mall (012) 346-2840, Woodlands Boulevard (012) 997-3777, Clearwater Mall (011) 475-1202.



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BEDFORD VIEW CENTRE : 011 615 1923



HOBBIES, COLLECTABLES & RECREATION

My work is my hobby



Far left: Irma Stern's Maid in Uniform. Left: JH Pierneef. Below: Ruby and diamond ring.



ANDREA KEARNEY, ANDREA'S ATTIC

FEW PEOPLE are able to turn their absolute passion into their business. The sheer joy is waking up every morning, knowing that you will be spending your day doing what you truly love.

Even better than that, is that while you are conducting your day-to-day business, you are helping people... the seller and the buyer.

I was called and asked to personally come to a home and buy an old antique bench and a few other pieces of furniture. The value wasn't very high, but strolling through their home I spotted a painting hanging on the wall.

I asked the woman if she wanted to sell it. She told me the story of how she used to go to "Art-ists under the Sun" on Sundays at the Zoo Lake in Johannesburg about 40 years ago. This was her hobby.

For exercise and recreation, she would feed the ducks and then have her cup of tea in the tea garden. Then she would start her search for paintings to hang on the walls of her new home. She only bought paintings "which spoke to me" that she enjoyed and could live with.

I asked her if she would sell me that painting. She said no, but asked me as a matter of interest what I would offer her. I said to her, R1 million. It was a J H Pierneef.

Her eyes nearly popped out of her head. Needless to say, a deal was done and everyone was happy.

I then called a client who is a collector of old South African paintings about the Pier-neef. He was very excited. He viewed the painting and was over the moon. This man collects art as his hobby and as an investment for his retirement.

With the Internet and social network revolution that has taken over the universe, people are becoming lazier by the second. It seems so easy to sit and operate a gadget without moving a muscle, except your eyes and fingers, not even straining your voice as it is easier and cheaper to message, SMS, e-mail or bbn each other. A lot of business is done this way.

I work differently. I'll visit you in the comfort of your own home; I'll communicate with you face to face, and I'll be fair, honest and not charge you any extra or unfair fees such as commissions or transport costs.

A young woman called me as her family had hit hard financial times. She had inherited a coin from her great-grandmother, whom she called "Old Gram". I went to see her.

It was a King George gold sovereign. Old Gram's passion was jewellery and she would buy a piece of gold jewellery as a memory of the beautiful and interesting places she used to visit on her travels. I bought the coins and the jewellery and my young friend was able to buy a second-hand car and pay her first year university fees.

If you are left a household of furniture items by a loved one and it really isn't your taste and you don't have the space to store it, it becomes a hassle, not to mention expensive.

It's such a pleasure and relief to call someone who understands your predicament. You will be paid immediately, everything will be packed for you and transport is free.



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HOBBIES, COLLECTABLES & RECREATION

From a school project to striking gold

What began as a school project has grown into a successful international business

MARLENE BILEWITZ

GRAEME AND Tracey Aitken, parents of Megan and Jared, were asked to get involved in a school project. "Please Dad, create something new and fun for us to sell at the KTV market day," the kids asked and so he did, never imagining that this would be the start of something big.

"I got five rolls of metallic foil colours, a bottle of special glue, a paint brush and a shortlist of instructions, placed everything in a plastic bag and stuck a header-card on the bag reading 'Foilart'.

"The kids went crazy about the product and the effect it had: it was glitzy, glamorous, gorgeous, and just what they wanted to enhance the look of books and projects - but they wanted more. And so we experimented and found that we could use this application on everything from finger nails to wood painting. The year was 1998 and Foilart was born.

"With new packaging we moved into the Blue Shed craft market at the Waterfront in Cape Town and once again received praise and approval from not only the locals, but the

tourists as well.

"Life was moving and we were invited to appear at Hobby-X. Our eyes were opened to the fact that Foilart, because of its versatility, had a wide audience appeal. It was popular with kids and adults alike, because they recognised that they could use Foilart for their specific application, whether it was for highlighting a school project, making greeting cards, highlighting scrapbook pages, decorating wood products and more."

Foilart now has a UK partner and has been featured in many magazines, on KTV, DStv, (Home Channel) and British TV's "Home Shopping". The response from world travellers who've seen the product, is that they've never seen anything like it in their country and the potential internationally is phenomenal.

"In order to meet the demand, we have decided to franchise distributorships around the country."

• For more information please contact us on www.foilart.co.za or also Tracey on 073-174-1992 or (021) 701-2459.



Lindt's Chocolate Studios unveil a secretive world...

SITUATED IN the Cape Quarter in Cape Town and the Design Quarter in Johannesburg, Lindt Chocolate Studios offer visitors the chance to explore the mesmerising world of Lindt chocolate.

The first of their kind in South Africa, the Chocolate Studios' workshops offer each participant - whether entry-level chefs, non-professionals or chocolate enthusiasts - an opportunity to gain insight and obtain a better understanding of the secretive world of chocolate making and confectionery.

Under the guidance of a passionate team of chefs, in the interesting and exciting workshops Lindt chocolate-lovers are able to create, play with and explore the many techniques involved in the creation of chocolate confection.

"The Chocolate Studios allow people to not only acquire a new skill, but to also experience chocolate on an entirely new level," says Lindt SA's vice-president of marketing, Megan Coquelle, who is based in Cape Town.

Participants can enrol in any one of the 12 workshops on offer and include Chocolate Appreciation, Dessert Tasters, Art of Truffles, Petite Desserts in a Glass, Tempering & Décor, Chocolate Confectionery, Moulding & Fillings, Advanced Chocolate & Confectionery, Hand-crafted Truffles, Showpiece Creation and Cake Creation &



Décor, among other exciting classes.

Lindt Chocolate Studio, Cape Town is situated at Shop B104, Cape Quarter, Dixon Street, De Waterkant, tel (021) 811-1334. Lindt Chocolate Studio in Johannesburg can be found at Shop 38, Design Quarter, Fourways, tel (011) 467-5730.

The studio shop, meanwhile, offers retail items which include Lindt recipe books, fondue sets, an assortment of pralines, Lindt couverture and specific chocolate apparatus.

In pursuit of a pure sensory adventure and to create your very own chocolate delights, visit Lindt's Chocolate Studios for a truly remarkable way to unlock and experience the mysteries of the cocoa bean.

• For more information contact Celebrity Services Africa, (021) 433-0347 or e-mail davin@celebsa.com

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Absolutely Awesome! It's the most fantastic decorative concept around, you will be amazed how simple it is to transform "plain & boring" into **stunning, eye-catching and trendy** giving your product a dazzling **"Million Dollar"** finishing touch in no time, foilart is so versatile it's a **must have** for every home... use it to hi-lite **school projects**, enhance your **art**, decorate **scrapbook** pages, personalise **gift bags**, **gift tags** or make your own designer **greeting cards** it even works on **wood**, whatever it is...

Foilart is so easy **anyone** can do it, it's as simple as 1... 2... 3



Hi-lite School Projects



Art



Scrapbook Pages



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Make Greeting Cards



Works on Wood



Works on Nails

Order your kit today

Xtreme kit offers great value: 10 stunning metallic colours (2m each) 1 foilart glue pen, 30 white practice cards, 1 sheet carbon film, "Cheat-a-little" tips (from beginner to instant expert in no time); includes FAQ to avoid common mistakes all contained in a clear re-usable clamshell blister pack to store your items...**ADD** an extra glue pen, including postage: **ALL FOR ONLY R215.00**

Full instructions included in kit.

See more www.foilart.co.za or Phone 021 701 2459 / Tracey 073 174 1992

The Lindt Chocolate Studio. Now open in Cape Town and Johannesburg.



Indulge your chocolate fantasies and discover the secrets of chocolate making. Visit us in Cape Town at Shop B104, Cape Quarter, 72 Waterkant Street, de Waterkant or in Johannesburg at Shop 38, Design Quarter Shopping Centre, Fourways. For more information visit www.chocolatestudio.co.za or call us on 021 421 3107 (Cape Town) or 011 467 5730 (Johannesburg).



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HOBBIES, COLLECTABLES & RECREATION

Myriad forms of enjoyment from Creative Papercraft

Creative Papercraft offers a unique service to crafters with ongoing classes, workshops, demonstrations, correspondence courses, mail order service and quality materials at reasonable prices, in a wide variety of paper crafts.

PARCHMENT; MARBLING art; sand art; glass painting; serviette decoupage on fabric, glass and cardboard; paper making; decoupage; 3D decoupage; tea bag folding; scrap booking; recycling greeting cards and other items; book making; calligraphy; box making; stamping; origami; quilling; paper beading; and jewellery making; recycled textured art; and much more are on offer.

We specialise in personal service, allowing the students to explore their own creativity in a relaxed, friendly environment. The classes are three hours long and are reasonably priced.

Most materials are available from Creative Papercraft at reasonable prices, but the students are welcome to bring their own supplies. Classes are held every week on a Tuesday evening and Thursday and Saturday mornings, with a maximum of eight students per class. For big groups special arrangements can be made.

If students are not able to attend classes, most of the classes are covered via correspondence. The cost of these courses include most materials, instructions and postage.

Craft kits are also available with the materials and instructions needed to complete a project. Extra supplies can be mail-ordered as well.

Paper is such a wonderful medium to work with, considering the variety of textures, colours

and thicknesses available to the crafter. As a paper crafter, all paper has its own magic from the humble newspaper to the most expensive handmade papers.

Paper can be transformed and used for card making; box making; book making; wrapping gifts; making home décor; toys; etc. The possibilities are endless. Paper can be coloured, painted, folded, stretched, torn, cut, recycled and altered in a myriad ways. The best part of paper crafts is that it needn't be expensive and paper is readily available all around us; we just need to utilise it creatively.

Yvonne Watson has been teaching calligraphy and cardmaking since 1992. She joined the Pen-dance Calligraphy Guild and was inspired to explore the cardmaking crafts that complement calligraphy so well. She also served on the committee for many years, as treasurer and vice chairman.

She has given workshops and demonstrations at Alf's Stationary, Showbiz, at various schools and retirement homes, while running classes at 64 Judd Street in Horizon.

With the opportunity of marketing parchment craft in South Africa, Yvonne launched Crea-



Recycled textured art. Make original art pieces from “stuff” one normally throws away, such as newspaper, bubblewrap, toilet rolls etc. Great for abstract and representational pictures.

tive Papercraft at HobbyEx in 1998. She has been a regular teacher at Keen on Crafts held at the CSIR in Pretoria, is a member of In2crafts hosted by Craftwise SA and has exhibited at Decorex.

She also goes to schools on request to teach the children something different to the normal school work, such as creating origami animals, pop-up cards or beeswax candles and recycled cool drink bottle candleholders. The teachers normally try to encompass as many OBE skills as possible in these ses-

sions.

She is a regular contributor in the Craftwise SA and Threads and Crafts magazines and has also recently appeared on DStv Home Channel, Show Me How.

Yvonne believes that everyone is creative in their own special way and we need to nurture this creativity so that we can escape the stress of modern-day living. Her classes are often described as therapy.

- Contact Yvonne Watson with any queries or to book for a workshop at (011) 763-5682.

Creative Papercraft



Offers relaxed, fun workshops, supplies, correspondence courses and mail-order for a wide variety of paper-related crafts including

*parchment | marbling art | sand art | glass painting | serviette decoupage on fabric | 3d decoupage
tea bag folding | scrap-booking | recycling greeting cards | book making | stamping | origami | quilling
calligraphy | paper beading | jewellery making | recycled textured art*

Workshops held at the studio or via correspondence. (Costs include materials, instruments and postage.)

For bookings of workshops or correspondence courses, contact Yvonne Watson on Tel: (011) 763-5682

LETTERS

The Editor, Suite 175, Postnet X10039, Randburg, 2125 email: carro@global.co.za

Guidelines for letters: Letters up to 400 words will get preference. Please provide your full first name and surname, place of residence, and a daytime contact telephone or cell number. We do not publish letters under noms de plume. Letters should preferably be e-mailed. Letters may be edited or shortened.	Disclaimer: The letters page is intended to provide opportunity for a range of views on any given topic to be expressed. Opinions articulated in the letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, staff or directors of the Jewish Report
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SERVICE DELIVERY FAILURES ALL AVAILABLE ON GOOGLE EARTH

THE UPPER Houghton Residents Association has plotted on Google Earth each and every missing man-hole cover, leaking water meter and fire hydrant, each broken pavement, each dumping spot, etc and has arrived at 106 service delivery issues unattended.

In Houghton, if there are 106 service delivery issues needing attention in less than one square kilometre, how many are there in the rest of the city?

This shows just what our new mayor has in store for him. We know Johannesburg is cash-strapped and one just wonders if the new administration will ever manage to close the backlog. All 106 issues have been logged and I will be following the action taken, closely.

**Marcelle Ravid
Councillor, Ward 73
City of Johannesburg**

COMMUNITY SHOULD COMPLAIN ABOUT HIGH KOSHER MEAT PRICES

I READ Monica Solomon’s letter in the SAJR with interest and wonder why there are not more complaints regarding the price of kosher meat. We have had a kosher home for more than 50 years and are now considering giving up and going non-kosher.

I have been comparing prices of best cut hindquarter beef and lamb with kosher forequarter. The differences demand explanation. Kosher meat compared to non-kosher best cuts, is between 50 per cent and 80 per cent more expensive, while chicken is more than 350 per cent more.

Maybe we have a cartel in the trade and the Competition Commission should get involved. Furthermore, the kosher butchers do NOT tare their scales, which by the way is against the law, and so I am paying exorbitant prices for the packaging as well as the meat. I haven’t even touched on cold meats, sausages and pies. As long as the community is prepared to be robbed, the situation will continue.

**Mike Clingman
Glen Athol
Sandton**

WHY IS NO MENTION MADE OF MURDER OF MELVILLE EDELSTEIN?

EVERY YEAR we see and hear about the events that happened that day. I was 18 years old at the time. We see the famous image of Hector Pieterse.

I recently did some reading up about what happened that day and also discovered that there was a Dr Melville Edelstein who died that day. Why is his name never mentioned? From what I read he loved and worked among the people of Soweto just like Amy Biehl did.

Why is there no tribute to him also? Can anyone share more about Dr Edelstein?

**Beverly Jansen
Pinelands, Cape Town**

Dr Edelstein’s sad death has been covered extensively over the years. But our letter writer is correct: We should again highlight the achievements of this selfless man. - Editor

ABBAS WON’T TOLERATE ‘SINGLE JEWS’ AMONG HIS ILK

IT SEEMS to me that Prof Ran Greenstein, writing from Johannesburg, is unaware of repeated statements made by PLO Leader Mahmoud Abbas. (SAJR June 10).

Thus, Greenstein states emphatically that he supports the idea of peace between Israel and Palestine, conceived as democratic, multi-ethnic societies, which guarantee equal individual and collective rights to all their people.

May I remind him that Abbas has repeatedly stated that he would not agree to have living among his Arab citizens even a

single Jew. This contrasts with the full and democratic rights enjoyed by the Arab citizens in Israel.

If and when Palestinian leaders would agree to Jews living in Palestine and enjoying full individual and collective democratic rights, then I could endorse Prof Greenstein’s beliefs. Those of us living in Israel are convinced that such a commitment will not be made by Palestinian leaders.

**Monty M Zion
Israel**

A TRIBUTE TO HEART SURGEON PROF CHRIS BARNARD

IT HAS been claimed that the late Prof Chris Barnard performed a double murder in performing the world’s first heart transplant. It is claimed that he murdered the donor and the recipient. That is the claim by Rev Moshe Feinstein.

But surely that is not the case. In the first heart transplant, the donor was Denise Duvall and the recipient was the late Louis Washkansky.

There have been even political undertones namely that the recipient was Jewish and the donor coloured - a plot by the old Nationalist/apartheid government.

Technically the performance of a heart transplant must be regarded as a technical masterpiece.

The removal and then anastomosis of the great vessels; the aorta, pulmonary vessels, inferior and superior vena cavae, is a feat that is difficult to surpass in the medical field.

In the book, The Transplanted Heart, by Peter Hawthorne, it describes the painstaking skills acquired by the Barnard brothers in acquiring the skills to do a heart transplant. They first trained on dogs and then baboons; they went to

the United States to learn the technique.

Then there was the race to do the first heart transplant. They pipped Dr Denton Cooley and others to the post.

So, while it may be condemned by the rabbinical society, the surgery itself must be recognised and acknowledged as a fabulous feat, almost akin to a miracle.

We must be indebted to the late heart pioneer and be grateful to the medical fraternity for transplant surgery.

With the advent of modern day drugs and immunosuppressive medication the problem of rejection and host versus graft response is not as great a problem as it once was.

We thank Rabbi Feinstein for his other numerous contributions to Judaism and Yiddishkeit, but feel that we, the medical fraternity, cannot support his statement on the late, great Prof Chris Barnard being a murderer!

**Dr H D Solomons
Highlands North
Johannesburg**

A GLARING OMISSION IN RICHARD FREEDMAN’S LETTER

THE LETTER of Richard Freedman, director of the South African Holocaust & Genocide Foundation (SAHGF) in Cape Town in Jewish Report of June 10, “Those who can’t remember the past are condemned to repeat it”, refers.

The SAHGF is doing wonderful work in commemorating the Shoah and enabling teachers in all the high schools to educate youth in the history and message of that most terrible period.

He has pointed out that the Cape Town branch has been teaching the Holocaust since 1999 and has trained teachers from 2007 onwards. They have established a museum which through its visual impact must be a great aid to visiting classes. Survivors of the Shoah are delighted to know Johannesburg will eventually also have its own museum.

But what about the past? The Second World War ended in 1945. Freedman states that the teaching of schoolchildren in Cape Town began in 1999, which leaves a gap of 44 years. In Johannesburg the Association of Holocaust Survivors was established in 1952 and its members have related their ghastly tales to audiences ever since.

Can anyone imagine what this means? A survivor of the ghettos and concentration camps is persuaded to stand up before a classroom of children in order to tell what has happened to him or her and most of their families. Their English is foreign, poor and their delivery worse. They belong to the few that are able to bring themselves to speak of the unmentionable. Most of their fellow survivors cannot even begin to tell their family or later their children what they experienced in camps where the death rate was three out of every four, due to starvation, brutality, murder, disease and despair.

And yet they do so, even when it means they are going to break down. When they experienced the horrors they were usually unable to shed a tear, so

emotionally numb where they. Years later they had recovered somewhat and had to bear with the shame of weeping in front of schoolchildren.

Why do they speak? There is a Yiddish saying: ”Oif ‘n lung, oif ‘n tsung”. The thoughts that haunt one must be related.

After my liberation I could at long last afford the luxury of thinking. Why had I survived and not others? The only plausible reason was to bear witness. A week after being freed I began to speak to the Jewish American soldiers that I encountered. My mother was English and so I could converse with them.

And so we survivors began to lecture. At first in Jewish schools, despite the protests of the parents and the Jewish headmaster who did not want to have the children upset. Then Kim Feinberg who established the Foundation for Tolerance Education, contacted survivors and sent them to speak at schools.

After such a week one reached saturation point and could not continue. The work takes an emotional toll and drains one, yet by the end of this year I hope to have lectured at about 480 schools - in Soweto, all over the country, in Australia and Zimbabwe, at German, Muslim and even a Japanese school.

When I joined the Survivors Association they had about 120 members. Today we number 20 in Johannesburg. Our work must continue and so we are most grateful to people such as Freedman and Tali Nates. They will continue to speak for us.

Yet I would have hoped that after the sacrifices we made and the trauma involved in pouring out our pain and sorrow during all these years, Richard Freedman might have mentioned our contribution in his letter. Not a word.

**Don Krausz
Chairman. Association of Holocaust
Survivors in Johannesburg**

PROTECTION OF MINORITIES IN ARAB COUNTRIES IS A MISNOMER

I AM taking issue with Prof Ran Greenstein in his call for “democratic, multi-ethnic societies, which guarantee equal individual and collective rights to all their people” to replace the State of Israel.

What would the name of this envisaged entity be? What would its flag be? No doubt the answer is “Palestine” and the flag would be the PLO flag, effectively the Jordanian flag without the white star.

Hence, Israel, the land of refuge to which hundreds of thousands of Holocaust survivors and hundreds of thousands of Jews fleeing from Arab countries arrived when it was reborn, would cease to exist.

The Jews would be a hapless minority in an Arab Palestine and would wait, huddled in their ghettos, to be massacred by Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, etc.

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, guarantees national self-determination to all peoples and the existence of the Jewish State is in keeping with this mandate. How well did the “unitary state” work in Lebanon, where hundreds of thousands of Christian Lebanese were massacred by the PLO and Syrians and went from being a majority in 1975 to a minority today?

How well did the Animist and Christian Nilotic blacks in Darfur and S Sudan fare in Sudan, where millions have been massacred - or the Kurds in Iraq, where 800 000 were butchered by Saddam Hussein?

We all know how minorities fare in Arab countries and what makes anyone think the Jews in your suggested “unitary Palestine” would fare any better, given the hate in Palestinian society for Israel’s Jews?

Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, said of the Jews after the 2006 Lebanon War: “If they gather in

PUBLISHING - OR NOT - OF LETTERS IN THE JEWISH REPORT

I AM disturbed to see that letters written by Avner Romm are not published anymore.

Surely he had something to say in response to the latest Issue of the paper. The question that may come to one’s mind is: What exactly did you do for Israel, which you apparently claim to stand for?

I know Avner Romm did upload a video clip on youtube, to try to answer your claims. the link is http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1kOQ3i9VKM

CAMPAIGN TO SINGLE OUT ISRAELI ACADEMICS FROM GLOBAL ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

People will have heard about the poisonous atmosphere on campus in which debates concerning Israel and Palestine take place, but last week they had the opportunity to sample it for themselves on the pages of the SA Jewish Report.

Prof Ran Greenstein, a fellow sociologist, says that for me neither words nor reality matter; he says I’m afraid of equality and democracy. He characterises my academic work on anti-Semitism as a campaign to manufacture hysteria and distortions. In other words, I don’t just get it wrong, I’m getting it wrong on purpose.

Ran referred, on a public website, to one of the Jewish Report’s journalists as “some stupid hag in a rag”. Why do we see such a departure from the norms

Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide.”

The spiritual guide to Hezbollah, Sheik Muhammad Husayn Fadallah, has said that even if all Jews in Israel converted to Islam, they would still have to leave or die, as their “blood is tainted with the crimes of Zionism”. In 2002, Muhammad Tantawi, Chief Mufti of Egypt and Sheik of Al Azhar, declared that Muslims must return to the teachings of Islam “in order to fight against Allah’s enemy and to cleanse the sacred ground of the Jews”.

Hamas and Hezbollah, two of the terrorist organisations that work for the physical annihilation of Israel, describe Jews as “pigs”, “cancer”, “garbage”, “germs”, “parasites” and “microbes”.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, in continually vowing to “wipe Israel off the map”, for which he is building a vast nuclear arsenal without the world or the Obama administration lifting a finger to stop him, uses the expression “dead rats”.

Not only do the rabid anti-Zionists who boycott and demonise Israel, display gross and racist anti-Semitism, but they are also responsible to a large extent for terror against Israeli women and children. This is because moral denigration encourages physical elimination.

Why out of a massive landmass under Arab control and a number of Arab states (today they number 22) is it regarded as such an injustice that a number of Arabs should be a minority in a Jewish State?

**Gary Selikow
Johannesburg**

**Rabbi Ruben Suiza
Sephardi Hebrew Congregation of Cape Town**

We have published 14 letters from Mr Romm in the past 17 months, the last on May 6. Letters are published in terms of topicality, a fresh point of view and space available. We are flooded with very good letters and many writers unfortunately do not see their letters published. Like Mr Romm, they all have something valid to say. - Editor

of rational debate which usually insist that a person is treated with respect when the truth or falsity of what they say is addressed? It seems to me that it is no accident that this departure accompanies a campaign to single out Israeli academia for exclusion from the global academic community. Israeli universities are to be boycotted, not because of anything they do, or say, but because they are Israeli.

The boycott campaign, which exists to silence the voices of Israeli academia, prefers angry denunciation to answering the arguments of its critics.

**David Hirsh
London**

FOR THE RECORD

MSC SPORTS HOSTED KIRSTEN-BACHER BREAKFAST

IN THE article on the breakfast with Gary Kirsten and Dr Ali Bacher in last week’s paper (on the sports

page), the function was not hosted by Highlands Tigers, as stated, but by MSC Sports. We regret the error

COMMUNITY COLUMNS



ABOVE BOARD

Zev Krengel,
National Chairman

A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

ON THE first anniversary of the opening of the 2010 Fifa World Cup, the weekend papers looked back on those exciting days and commented on what lessons we, as South Africans, can draw from them.

It was good to be reminded of what this country was able to achieve, and also of how the euphoria of that achievement brought everyone together. It helps to counter the unfortunate tendency among South Africans to allow short-term problems to eclipse the memory of what South Africa has accomplished.

We need constantly to remind ourselves of our proven track record in facing up to some of the most formidable challenges and emerging all the stronger for it. The 2010 World Cup was one such

That 2010 spirit one year on

outstanding achievement.

As hosts, South Africa did not merely match the levels achieved by such sophisticated modern societies as Germany, but by all informed accounts triumphantly exceeded them. This went beyond the mere successful hosting of a sports tournament to become a resounding declaration to the world at large of what this vibrant young African democracy is capable of.

This is surely what must always be at the back of our minds even when things do not appear to be going our way.

Kudos for two distinguished South African Jews

Recently, two eminent members of our community were, in different ways, signally honoured for their lifetime achievements. Bertie Lubner was listed by the Jerusalem Post as one of the world’s 50 most influential Jews while Raymond Ackerman was

awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of South Africa.

We congratulate these two outstanding individuals on being accorded this recognition. Both have combined extraordinary success in their business endeavours with rendering sterling service in the philanthropic field.

In the latter area, Bertie’s most significant contribution post-liberation has surely been his co-founding with the late Rabbi Cyril Harris, z”tl, and subsequent heading up of Afrika Tikkun, a Jewish-led initiative to making a meaningful difference to poverty alleviation in the greater society.

During that time, he has also been prominently involved in Jewish communal affairs, including on the Gauteng Council and NEC of the SAJBD, as the chairman of the SA Associates of Ben-Gurion University and on the Board of Directors of the SA Jewish Report.

As everyone knows, Raymond Ackerman is the founder and long-

South Africans can benefit from his achievements.

We can all draw inspiration from what he and Bertie have accomplished, as indeed we can from the many other remarkable Jewish individuals who, like them, have rendered disproportionate service to our society.

This column is paid for by the SAJBD

LETTERS

KUDOS FOR PUBLISHING ARTICLE ON THE NETANYAHUS

COMPLIMENTS TO the SA Jewish Report for publishing the opinion piece by Rafael Medoff, “Father to son; Netanyahu’s Legacy in Washington” in the issue of June 10.

As a former assistant editor of a weekly SA Jewish newspaper, the “Jewish Herald”, I know the limitations on being able to accommodate everything newsworthy within the

confines of a 24 pager.

Accordingly, against the background these days of the massive amount of worthy material available, you are to be complimented on selecting for publication that piece of fascinating Zionist political history as it relates to the recent US success of Israel’s prime minister in 2011. Well done.

There are many similar stories in Zionist revisionist history (particularly within the largely-unknown political legacy of the amazing work and personality of Jabotinsky) that still remain to be told to the public at large.

David Abel
Vice Chairman Likud SA

AN APPEAL TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY

NOW LIVING in South Africa we are primarily the second and third generation of immigrant parents who left the Pale at the end of the nineteenth or early in the twentieth century.

Like the writer’s family, they probably did not tell the stories of their previous life in the countries from which they came. They might have mentioned the name of a town but to large extent they did not describe their life style, members of the family, their neighbours, and the hardships they endured under an oppressive regime. Perhaps they wished to obliterate the memories of their previous life, seeing that now they were in a new country. Perhaps had they told us as youngsters we would label them as “bobba meises”

However, as a result we have lost a complete report on a generation of our people. History is made based on such recordings.

Today in this country we are experiencing a vast immigration of mostly young people to other parts of the world.

HOD-SPONSORED CONCERT GAVE MUCH JOY TO SENIORS

Three Hebrew Order of David lodges clubbed together to give Johannesburg’s Jewish seniors a concert at the HOD Centre recently.

And what a delightful concert they gave! The conductor of the orchestra is a dignified, graceful, and lovable man, who had the full confidence of his artists. He noted that he could do with more Jewish music to play for his Jewish audiences - perhaps someone could oblige him.

George Jameson
Rosebank, 011 447 1597

For myself, and others, he could have concluded the concert with “Hatikvah”, but I enjoyed everything that was played.

Much thanks to the Hebrew Order of David. Long may this organisation (whose sole concern is to help and give to all Jews) last.

Esme Schay-Cohen
Johannesburg

WHAT HAS BRITISH GOVERNMENT GOT TO DO WITH IT?

DAVID HIRSH asked Ran Greenstein why the University of Johannesburg singles out an Israeli university for boycott. Greenstein’s reply is that the British government has imposed sanctions against a whole lot of other countries. I don’t understand what the

record of the British government has got to do with UJ’s decision to single out Israel, and only Israel, for boycott.

Richard Gold
Manchester, UK

PUT EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE OF ISRAEL FOR JEWS

I DO not know David Hirsh or Ran Greenstein. I do know the real situation in Israel today and have watched the “peaceful riots” every Shabbat by the PA youth at Bil’in, Ni’ilin and Sheikh Jarrah where our young IDF soldiers have acted with utmost restraint.

You people (Hirsh and Greenstein) write on and on in language that befits the world you live in, in the Diaspora, but we in our lit-

tle but great land of Eretz Israel, know the importance of defending every inch of the land. I presume you are both Jews - so stand with us and tell the ordinary Jew in the Jewish street how important Israel is to the Jews not to the PA.

Miriam Davidowitz
Johannesburg

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Chaverim enjoy a late-night discussion with former mazkir, Daniel Linde in April.

Habonim Dror hitting the half-way mark running

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY GEMMA COWAN

EACH YEAR in Habonim feels vastly different to the one before and this year is no exception. There was much excitement and anticipation for 2011, when there would be six movement workers – four in Johannesburg, one in Cape Town and one in Israel – six people who spend every minute working for Habonim in one way or another.

But it was never a surprise that they would take hold of the movement and guide it in the right direction and it was never unexpected that they would fulfil their roles capably. Anything less would have been unacceptable. Yet, 2011 has surprised me thus far and I can’t help but feel that it’s not only because we are led by a strong team of movement workers, but also because of the new kids on the block.

While the movement workers make the big decisions and deal with the finicky behind-the-scenes stuff, the real face of the movement can be seen in the vibrant, passionate and serious younger bogrim (leaders). They are the people who bring fresh ideas into the movement, provide new perspectives and enhance the social and intellectual fabric of Habonim.

From those who have returned from shnat (the HDSA gap year in Israel), to people who are experiencing the kenim (Cape Town and Johannesburg centres) for the first time, the presence of younger bogrim this year has been refreshing and exciting.

The movement works in cycles; people come and people go, yet the core pillars on which the movement is based (namely Zionism, Judaism, Equality and Service to

Humanity), stay the same.

There is a danger in a movement that is so set in its ideology, that it can easily become stagnant. One realises that the Labour Zionism that inspired the movement in its early years is not the same Labour Zionism that inspires chaverim today. And just when you think it may be time to pack up all of your ideological baggage, someone pushes you in a new direction. These first few months of 2011 have been anything but stale!

Half way into the year, members of the bogrim body have grappled and engaged with numerous issues. We have engaged in long ideological debates among ourselves, the national executive had their first meeting in February, when they spoke with David Grossman, world-renowned Israeli author.

They will hold their second meeting in July. Both kenim (centres) have held successful mini-machanot and our national April Seminar for grade 11 and 12 was a huge success. Weekly meetings continue to draw diverse crowds and community events are never short of blue chultzot.

Classroom programmes in the schools are run every week in both cities and the new tutoring project in Cape Town with Ikamva Youth has kicked off to a powerful start.

With our Shorashim tour to Israel leaving on June 29, our seminar for madrichim in Grahamstown on July 3 and Johannesburg Winter Camp starting on July 11, we can only hope to have an equally successful second half in the build-up to our summer Machaneh Bonim Atid (Building a Future), which will be held from December 8 – 28. To sign up for any of these events, visit www.habo.org.za/signup

Herzlia interfaith evening fosters understanding

ILAN SCHER, GRADE 12, SRC HERZLIA HIGH SCHOOL

THE STUDENT Representative Council of Herzlia High School hosted an interfaith evening on Wednesday, May 11. The evening was compiled, planned and run entirely by the SRC and involved various schools and religious groupings from around Cape Town.

Participants were invited from Westerford High, Bishops Diocesan College, St Cyprians High, Oaklands High, Herzlia High, Islamia College and St George’s Grammar. Each school was requested to send between 10 - 15 representatives. The event was based on the three Abrahamic faiths, Christianity, Judaism and Islam, participating in interfaith dialogue.

The SRC concluded that within Cape Town schools, there was not enough knowledge or social interaction between the different religious faiths. On this basis the aims for the evening originated. It was an opportunity to broaden social interaction and build relationships with people of diverse cultural backgrounds within our own city, as well as to break down stereotypes, all of which will allow for less ignorance and more tolerance of different religions, their practices and their beliefs.

There was a panel discussion by three religious leaders: an imam, a priest and a rabbi. The topic was: “The Place and Role of Ethics in Your Faith/Tradition. Human Rights Within Your Faith/Tradition. How Does Your Faith/Tradition Deal with ‘The Other’?”

The religious leaders present were Reverend John Oliver, Imam Rashid Omar and Rabbi Matthew Liebenberg. They spoke

eloquently on their respective faiths, followed by a question and answer session.

The ice-breakers were an artefact activity and a quotes activity. Participants were asked to bring an artefact that was either religious or cultural, from their faiths. It was an eye opener for many to learn about items relating to other faiths.

Then a list of quotes was given to the participants as well as individual labels with the name of a religion on each of them. Participants were asked to match the religion to the quote. It soon became apparent that each of the quotes could be applicable to all the faiths and an air of excitement resonated through the hall when everyone realised the similarities that exist in all the religions.

The keynote speaker, Judith Cohen from the South African Human Rights Council addressed the importance of reconciling religious values with the constitution of a country, as well as the need for awareness of the seeds of discrimination and how the young members of an active society can stand up and effect change when change is needed.

The evening ended with a workshop led by Steven Xabanisa, a member from the Face to Face/Faith to Faith organisation, which specialises in interfaith work, leadership and the development of communication skills. The workshop was based on the fact that all people have different perspectives.

The evening offered a forum to learn, understand and respect the differences, as well as the surprising similarities, between the three faiths, as well as an opportunity for one’s opinion to be heard.

YOUTH TALK

Alison Goldberg youthsajr@global.co.za

Shakespeare is alive and well - and thriving - at KDHL

DR ROHAN QUINCE
PHOTOGRAPH: GARY BLOCH

THE THIRD annual King David Linksfield Shakespeare Festival took place in the Auditorium from Monday May 30, until Thursday, June 2. Scenes from a variety of plays were performed, including Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth, Hamlet, King Lear, Othello, The Merchant of Venice, Love’s Labours Lost, and Titus Andronicus.

The scenes were directed and performed largely by learners, with more than 80 involved, many of whom had never appeared on stage before, let alone speaking Shakespeare’s verse!

The Monday/Wednesday programme began with a scene from the early comedy, Love’s Labours Lost, wittily and elegantly performed by new Shakespearean actors, Sivan Elad, Kira Lewison, and Carla Harberger.

The witches in Macbeth followed, with much gleeful and demonic shrieking, complemented by a very intoxicated Porter, played convincingly by Saul Nossel. Romeo and Juliet delighted the audience with its large cast, ably directed by Cassie Gewer, Cayla Solomon, and Donna Trapido.

The actors engaged with vigour in the street fight, and then transformed the atmosphere into the elegance of the Capulet’s ball and finally the romance of the balcony scene. The evening ended with the final scene of Shakespeare’s most violent tragedy, Titus Andronicus, with four bloody murders committed in quick succession,



Lori Rabinovitch and Devin Krok in “To Be Or Not To Be”.

each one more dramatic than the last!

On Tuesday/Thursday we were treated to Hamlet’s “To Be Or Not To Be” soliloquy, forcefully acted by Devin Krok, followed by the Nunnery scene, with Lori Rabinovitch as a spirited Ophelia. In the Willow scene from Othello, Dani Mann and Kira Lewison created a sad and poignant mood, offering a quiet but determined feminist perspective.

The directors of The Merchant of Venice scene, Davida Kruger and Alyssa Schneider, elaborated on Shakespeare so that we saw the suitors of Portia. Usually we only hear about them, but when we saw this motley band wandering across the stage, we could only sympathise with Portia (convincingly played by Shannon Rabinowitz) the more!

The programme ended with several scenes from King Lear, with fiery exchanges between the king and his daughter, Goneril, played with passion by Gabriella Blumberg. Jayme Cesman’s lively portrayal of the Fool with his enigmatic utterances increased the energy on the stage.

Shakespeare is alive and thriving at King David Linksfield High School!

Montessori Pre-school pulls up its tent pegs

FAY FLOOD
PHOTOGRAPH: CHAIM SCHNEIDER

THE JEWISH Montessori Pre-school of Chabad of Fourways, which opened in January this year, has moved to new premises in Beverly, where the shul is situated.

The shul caters to the needs of many Jewish families who have chosen to live in this rural area of Gauteng and now the school, with a nucleus of learners, is set to attract more and more children of young parents in the area.

Rabbi Dovi Rabin and his wife Yael, spiritual leader and rebbetzen of Chabad of Fourways, together with Yael’s siblings and their spouses: Gila and Rabbi Eitan Ash,

Tova and Rabbi Mendy Moss, Rabbi Avi and Tovi Steiner and Rabbi Levi Steiner, endowed the first classroom on the occasion of the 60th birthday of their mother, Bernice Steiner, to honour her and her husband, Henry, and in memory of their late grandparents, Dori Steiner and Hymie and Tilly Isserow.

A meaningful “handing over” of the classroom, and reading of a plaque which graces the impressive classroom, took place in the presence of many extended family members, friends and supporters of Chabad of Fourways.

• For more information contact rael@chabadfourways.org or on 082-870-0880 - www.chabadfourways.org



Front: Tali Moss; Sheva Ash; Mendy Ash; Rabbi Eitan Ash; Pini Ash; Simmi Moss; and Rabbi Dovi Rabin. Middle: Tovi Steiner; Yael Rabin; Mendel Rabin; Tova Moss; Yisroel Rabin; Bernice Steiner; Shayna Ash; and Gila Ash. Back: Henry Steiner; Rabbi Avi Steiner; Ariel Moss; Nissan Steiner; Mendy Moss; and Rabbi Levi Steiner.

Fruit for needy Jewish families

OWN CORRESPONDENT
PHOTOGRAPH: SUZANNE BELLING

CHILDREN FROM the Torah Academy Nursery School show off the baskets for their bikkurim parade where they handed over fruit baskets for Shavuot to representatives of Yad Aharon, which provides food for needy Jewish families.

Behind Avi Rosen; Rivka Youngworth; Nina Berelowitz; and Ohad Avigdor is their display depicting the festival of Shavuot.



Jewish Report

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Fathers and sons to bat it out

JACK MILNER

FORMER WESTERN Province cricketer Ryan Maron has been involved in the development of the sport for a number of years now. On Sunday the Ryan's Cricket School of Excellence in Johannesburg will host their first ever Father and Son Cricket Family Fun Day at the AW Muller Stadium at the University of Johannesburg

The day promises to be fun filled with an emphasis on enjoyment, excitement and participation. A T20 match will be played in which the fathers will take on their sons. Their level of skill is of little concern as there will be some coaching before the match, particularly aimed at the fathers.

If a father is not able to play, the organisers will have coaches available to slot in. If there are mothers who wish to play, they will be welcome as well. There will also be entertainment for non-playing siblings.

Everybody needs to be at the stadium by 10:00 as the match will start at 11:00. It should all be done and dusted by 15:00. The AW Muller Ground is next to the Sentec Tower on Brixton Hill, above the SABC.

The cost is R100 per player; father and son - R200, two sons and a father - R250.

Players - fathers as well as sons - must bring all their cricket equipment as well as something to eat and drink. Braai facilities are available, so they are welcome to bring along meat, salads, cutlery and crockery.

Maron has also completed another successful round of holiday clinics at Rondebosch Boys High School, Parklands College, Van der Stel Cricket Club (Stellenbosch) and University of Johannesburg, attracting over 200 aspiring cricketers, including 15 players from Khayelitsha and Samora Machel Cricket Clubs, sponsored by the Maurits van Nierop Foundation (MVNF).

The prize-giving at Rondebosch was an auspicious occasion with Albert van Nierop, the founder of the MVNF, as well as Michael Rippon, left-arm bowler for the Cobras, giving out prizes and signing autographs.

The MVNF was founded to commemorate Van Nierop who died tragically in Cape Town in September 2008. He was an



Ryan Maron, Michael Rippon and Albert van Nierop with two junior trophy winners.

extremely gifted sportsman who played for the Dutch National Cricket team and also excelled in field hockey.

It is the Foundation's belief that every child has the right to play sports and its goal is to raise funds to enable black children to have the opportunity to play sports. The Foundation donates towards Maron's School of Excellence's development work with township children.

Says Maron: "If your children have any equipment, clothing or shoes which they have outgrown, we would be grateful to pass these on to the township children who are trying to play sport with minimal or no resources and certainly no proper clothing and shoes.

"We are currently establishing a non-profit organisation to take our development work to a new level and instead of only being able to focus on 20 or so children, we aim to take clinics into their environment to be able to reach hundreds of children.

"If anybody would like to contribute towards our Foundation and development work or donate equipment, please contact meg@cricketschool.co.za or 072-247-3248."

Ben Haim suing Portsmouth over claim of unpaid wages

BRITISH TABLOID, The Daily Mail, has reported that Israel defender Tal Ben Haim, is set to file a lawsuit against English soccer team Portsmouth, over what he claims are a £1,4 million claim in unpaid wages owed to him by the club.

Ben Haim has taken legal advice and will make his case against the Pompey side at a Football League hearing in July.

According to the English newspaper's report, the 29-year-old player alleges he has not been paid since returning from a loan spell at West Ham in January.

If successful, a transfer embargo will remain in place at Fratton Park until Ben Haim is paid, representing a huge blow for manager Steve Cotterill, who has only eight players under contract.

The move could not come at a worse time for Portsmouth fans, who hoped the £15m purchase by Vladimir Antonov's company, Convers Sports Initiatives, from previous owner Balram Chainrai earlier this month, was the end of the worst period in the club's history.

But Ben Haim, signed by Pompey from Manchester City in 2009, is adamant the club has failed to honour his £36 000-a-week contract and, although the problems started under previous owners, the legal process is continuing because Antonov has not paid the money claimed.

Ben Haim did not see any action for Portsmouth in the most recent campaign, but played in eight Premier League games for West Ham, tallying no goals and an assist. In three starts for Israel this year, he has one goal.



Israel defender Tal Ben Haim.

Sela given Wimbledon wild card

ISRAELI TENNIS star Dudi Sela, will play in the world-famous Wimbledon competition after winning 15 straight matches on the Challenger circuit. For this, he has been rewarded with a wild-card for the main draw of Wimbledon.

The 26-year-old chose to end his run of playing in 14 straight Grand Slam tournaments by forgoing his place at Roland Garros last month in order to pick up some much-needed ranking points and confidence in Challenger events.

Sela plummeted to No 147 in the world a month ago, his lowest position in almost four years, but he is expected to climb to No 81 this coming week, thanks to his three straight Challenger triumphs at Busan, South Korea, Fergana, Uzbekistan and the latest one at Nottingham in England last weekend.

"I was told by Wimbledon at the start of last week that I have a chance to get a wild-card," said Sela, who was preparing to play in the qualifiers at the All England Club as a result of his drop in the rankings.

"Every year around three foreign players receive wild-cards and because I did

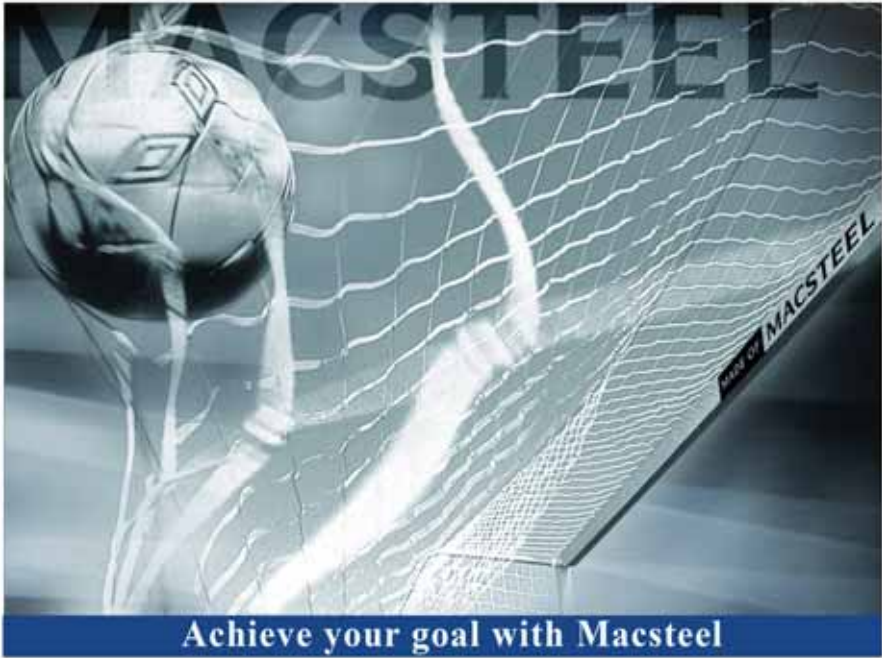


Israeli tennis player Dudi Sela could get another chance to celebrate at Wimbledon after having been given a wild card into the tournament.

well in recent Challenger competitions and because I've done well at Wimbledon before, they gave me one this year."

Meanwhile Shahar Peer goes into Wimbledon next week on the back of three first-round losses after crashing out at Eastbourne on Monday. The 24-year-old Israeli, ranked 22 in the world, lost 7-5, 6-3 to Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez.

This has to be the biggest slump in her career, but at least she will retain her seeding and that may well help her through a round or two at the All England Club next week



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