



Good reads - page 8.

• south african • jewish report

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SA on Wednesday united in love for its icon, Madiba, who turned 94

King David pupils went to the Ububele Children Centre in Kew, Johannesburg, to help young children there to decorate cupcakes in the spirit of Mandela Day. Madiba turned 94 on Wednesday. Geena Cohen (13, left) with her sister Eden, is pictured helping Ishmail Tsotseti and Lebo Schhetsa decorate some cupcakes. In honour of her birthday, Geena gave her birthday presents to the children at the centre. The overarching objective of Mandela Day is to inspire individuals to take action to help change the world for the better. People were urged to give 67 minutes of their time on Mandela Day - to commemorate the 67 years Mandela dedicated in his fight for freedom - for the betterment of the lives of the less fortunate, or in a worthwhile charitable project. (PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDRYVER)

SEE PAGE 2

Israeli political constellation realigns as Kadima quits govt

For the second time in just two months, the Israeli political universe has been upended with the vote to quit Israel's governing coalition by Shaul Mofaz's Kadima



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Call for 'Munich Minute' at opening ceremony of London Olympics, gathers momentum

4, 16

SAKS: Déjà vu in anti-Israel propaganda campaign

I am aware of no other case at any time of a country not just being put on trial, but convicted in advance by a world tribunal for retaliating against prolonged missile attacks against its own civilian population.

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Steven Cohen one of 3 SA Jewish artists for Festival d'Avignon



Cohen's logic stumped legal counsel: what if there are musophobes in the audience, they asked. Cohen countered: what if there are homophobes? Or anti-Semites?

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Denis MacShane keynote speaker at SAJBD Gauteng Conference in September

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Shabbat Times

July 20/ 1 Av
July 21/ 2 Av

Parshat Matot-Masei

17:18	18:10	Johannesburg
17:41	18:35	Cape Town
17:00	17:52	Durban
17:20	18:12	Bloemfontein
17:13	18:07	Port Elizabeth
17:06	17:59	East London

Kashrut Alert

YELLOW CHEESE SHOULD SOON BE AVAILABLE AGAIN

The kashrut department of the Union of Orthodox Synagogues says it is aware of the current shortage of “Chalav Yisrael” supervised yellow cheese, which is the result of a change in management and operations at Dairy World.

The kashrut department says soft cheese and other dairy products are still being manufactured.

“We have had some new applications for yellow cheese production and these should be available in the near future.”

News in Brief

PERES AND AMAR: EXPRESS DISSENT OVER MILITARY SERVICE WITH LOVE

JERUSALEM - Instead of expressing hatred, arguments over drafting haredi Orthodox men in the Israeli army should be expressed with brotherly love, Israel’s president and the Sephardic chief rabbi said last Sunday.

Shimon Peres and Shlomo Amar met on Sunday morning at the president’s residence in Jerusalem to discuss the coming legislation for universal military service.

“There is no room for fostering hatred,” Amar said, citing the fact that Jews are currently observing the Three Weeks, a mourning period between the fast of the 17th of Tammuz and the fast of the 9th of Av. Peres also called for the end of hatred and extremism, according to reports.

Amar said that the haredi yeshiva students believed they were giving their lives in defence of the Jewish State through their Torah study.

The rabbi also reportedly said that he believed more haredi youth would be willing to serve in the army over time. (JTA)

EXTREMIST HAREDI ORTHODOX PROTEST UNIVERSAL CONSCRIPTION

JERUSALEM - Thousands of members of a haredi Orthodox sect protested Monday evening in Jerusalem against a planned universal military service law.

The members of the extremist Eda Haredit sect does not recognise secular law.

The protest reportedly began with prayer and continued with young children marching chained to each other carrying signs that said “Save me”.

Knesset Speaker Reuven Rivlin said earlier on Monday that he would extend the Knesset’s current session, and not send lawmakers on summer break, until a conscription law that includes the haredi Orthodox was drafted.

In February, the Israeli Supreme Court declared that the Tal Law, which allowed haredi Orthodox men to defer service indefinitely, to be unconstitutional, and set August 1 as the deadline for a new law to be passed. (JTA)

Hide and seek

Hamish is stone drunk when he stumbles out of a bar in the thick of night and begins to circle a light pole looking for his keys. When a concerned passerby asks him where exactly he lost his keys, the fellow points to the end of the block.

“Why in heaven’s name are you looking here? Look there!” asks the Good Samaritan. “Because there it’s dark” responds the drunk, “but here by the light pole, here there’s light!”

The Three Weeks mourning period for the destruction of both our temples begins in early July, bookended by two fast days: 17th of Tammuz which signifies the beginning of the destruction and the 9th of Av (“Tisha B’Av) representing their culmination.

In the fast-day Haftorah, Isaiah implores the Jewish people: “Dirshu Hashem, seek G-d, where He is to be found; call to Him when He is near.”

The prophet adjures us to seek G-d where He is found, because often, in our search for Him, we gravitate to the light pole. We hope to find Him in the tranquility of shul; we expect to find Him in the



PARSHAT MATOT-MASEI

By Dovid Wineberg
Rabbi of the Green and Sea Point Hebrew Congregation

self-satisfaction of our latest mitzvah.

But when the holy Rebbe of Kotzk was once asked where is G-d, he roared in response: “Where is G-d?! Wherever you let Him in!”

Indeed, the prophet provides us with an address when he challenges us to “seek G-d”, because it is through the seeking - the inner heart-struggle of a Jew - that one lets Hashem in.

How often do you allow opportunities to pass you by? Maybe you’re one of those who then shrug their shoulders as they re-

peat some cliché - “it wasn’t meant to be” or, “ignorance is bliss”?

But the Talmud declares that anyone who does not merit seeing the Temple rebuilt, it’s as if they themselves destroyed it!

The three weeks are about taking responsibility for all those things that could and should have been. We mourn for struggles lost and for the missed opportunities that litter our pathway to heaven. And we commit ourselves to seeing through the next challenge; to finding G-d in the next battle.

Many years ago G-d went into hiding, and man began to truly search. It is to the relentless seeker that Hashem promises enlightenment and blessing.

“And it will be that before [you] call, I will answer; while [you] speak, I will hear.” Amen



SA Jewish Report staff members with food items the newspaper bought to distribute to the needy on Wednesday, Mandela Day. Pictured are Nicole Cook; Sharon Akum; Charissa Newman; Manuela Bernstein; Bryan Silke; Geoff Sifrin; Robyn Sassen; Frankie Matthysen; and Britt Landsman. (PHOTOGRAPH BY ILAN OSSENDRYVER)

Warm birthday wishes to Madiba, on his 94th

OWN CORRESPONDENT

The Jewish Report staff joined thousands of South Africans on Wednesday in celebrating the 94th birthday of Nelson Mandela by buying groceries which they will distribute to the homeless in the streets of Johannesburg; community leaders also sent messages of congratulation.

From Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein: “On President Nelson Mandela’s 94th birthday, the SA Jewish community extends to our beloved elder statesmen and precious national hero, best wishes for G-d’s continued abundant blessings, and as we say, may he live until 120. President Mandela’s legendary generosity of spirit, forgiveness and determination in the face of terrible adversity serve as an inspiration and testimony to the unlimited potential of the human spirit cre-

ated in the image of G-d.”

From Bertie and Hilary Lubner: “Since the day you devoted your life to enhancing the dignity and wellbeing of others, you have been considered worldwide to be one of the world’s leading icons. The history of the world and South Africa in particular, shall always remember the name of Nelson Mandela as the standard bearer of justice and equality for all.”

From Ann Harris: “Dear Madiba, I am so pleased to have the opportunity to join in the Jewish community’s birthday greetings to you. In our tradition, we wish our friends ‘May you live to 120 in health and happiness’ on their birthdays. Your rabbi and friend, the late Rabbi Cyril, used to add ‘to 120 plus VAT’ so as to give you even longer! And that is exactly what we wish for you - in good health and contentment for many years

to come! With fond regards to you and Graca.”

From Eric and Sheila Samson: “Dear Madiba, Heartiest congratulations on your 94th birthday and may you have many more years of good health and happiness which you so richly deserve – you are still SA’s greatest statesman we have ever had.”

From Mary Kluk: “The SA Jewish Board of Deputies joins millions of fellow South Africans in extending its warmest good wishes to former President Nelson Mandela on the occasion of his 94th birthday. The example set by Mr Mandela in the course of his legendary life and career, remains a source of inspiration not just to South Africa, but the entire world. We are indeed privileged to have so towering an icon of liberation, human rights and democracy in our midst.”



Design and layout: Frankie Matthysen, Nicole Cook • Website: Ilan Ossendryver • Subscription enquiries: Avusa Publishing (Pty) Ltd. Tel: 0860-13-2652.

Board of Directors: Howard Feldman (Chairman), Issie Kirsh (Deputy Chairman), Marlene Bethlehem, Bertie Lubner, Benji Porter, Herby Rosenberg, Howard Sackstein, Jason Valkin, Elton Bondi, Michael Sieff, Steven Krawitz and Denese Bloch.

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PUBLISHER Bryan Silke - bryan@sajewishreport.co.za • EDITOR Geoff Sifrin - geoff@sajewishreport.co.za • Sub-Editor Paul Maree • Ed Co-ordinator Sharon Akum - sharon@sajewishreport.co.za • Sports Editor Jack Milner • Books Editor Gwen Podbrey • Arts Editor Robyn Sassen • Cape Town correspondent Moira Schneider: 021-794-4206 • Pretoria correspondent Diane Wolfson: 082-707-9471 • Advertising: Adi Lew: 083-407-8034 - lews@tiscali.co.za, Britt Landsman: 082-292-9520 - britt@sajewishreport.co.za, Manuela Bernstein: 082-951-3838 - manuela@sajewishreport.co.za, Marlene Bilewitz: 083-475-0288 - marlene@sajewishreport.co.za • Classified Sales Charissa Newman - jrclassified@global.co.za • Distribution Manager Britt Landsman •





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MacShane to be keynote speaker at Board's Gauteng conference

DAVID SAKS

Rising levels of anti-Semitism the world over, whether in its traditional form or under the guise of political anti-Zionism, is by no means solely a Jewish concern. Since the turn of the century in particular, a growing number of political leaders and civil libertarians from the greater global community have become involved in the campaign to confront the menace.

Among other initiatives, there is now an Inter-Parliamentary Coalition to Combat Anti-Semitism (IPCCA), comprising mainly non-Jewish parliamentarians from across the globe that meets on an annual basis to share information and strategise for the future.

One of those who have been especially active in the field, is Dr Denis MacShane, MP, former Minister for Europe in Tony Blair's Labour administration and a leading expert on global and European affairs in the House of Commons.

MacShane will shortly be visiting South Africa under the auspices of the SAJBD and will be the keynote speaker at the Board's Gauteng Council conference on September 2.

Prior to his entering Parliament in 1994, MacShane was involved in the Anti-Apartheid Movement, particularly through his work on behalf of the independent black trade union movement (specifically with Cosatu) in South Africa.

He made regular trips to the country, inter

alia organising legal support for local trade unionist leaders like Moses Mayekiso. In 1984, he co-authored Power! Black Workers, their Unions and the Struggle for Freedom in SA.

Today, the political and academic Left is widely accused of being at best in denial and at worst actively complicit regarding the rise of anti-Semitism. By contrast MacShane, notwithstanding his leftwing background, has emerged as among the most active and eloquent opponents of that age-old scourge.

He regularly raises the issue in the House of Commons and in 2006 chaired the UK all-party Parliamentary Inquiry into Anti-Semitism. He was among the founders of the IPCCA.

Further afield, he has lectured on the topic at British, French, American and Canadian universities and works with British and European Jewish groups, focusing especially on the need to educate children on the Holocaust.

MacShane is the author of Globalising Hatred: the New Anti-Semitism, which appeared in 2008. He is also a noted analyst on European political affairs, with his articles having appeared in such well-known international publications as Newsweek, the Guardian, Wall Street Journal, le Monde, El Pais and Die Welt.

The SAJBD Gauteng Council conference will take place on Sunday morning, September 2, at Investec, Sandton. To register or for further information, contact Jenni on (011) 645-2521 / jenni@beyachad.co.za.

Religious leaders express views on e-tolling

SHIRA DRUON

E-tolling is the controversial buzzword across the country, since the outrage over the South African Roads Agency Limited (Sanral's) e-tolling proposal for Gauteng freeways. It is a catalyst that continues to spark heated debate among South Africans from across the spectrum.

Government has landed itself in a pickle, having misjudged the almost unanimous opposition to the e-toll proposal – with even alliance partner, Cosatu, coming out strongly on the side of the protesters.

Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein recently attended a high profile meeting alongside several of the country's leaders, to put forward his views on the matter. The meeting was requested by the deputy president and chairman of the ministerial e-tolling committee, Kgalema Motlanthe.

Motlanthe invited an elite panel of representatives from the country's religious leaders and governmental experts. The participants included the likes of Minister of Finance Pravin Gordhan, Deputy Minister of Finance Nhlanhla Musa Nene, Deputy Minister of Transport Sindisiwe Lydia Chikunga, and Sanral's CEO, Nazir Ali.

The meeting criticised the lack of adequate consultation during this whole e-tolling saga. This was acknowledged by the government delegation who recognised this by creating a new platform of open discussion to thrash the issue out.

Motlanthe spearheaded the meeting with a clear agenda to create dialogue and exchange ideas, allowing invitees to share their insights and listen to their views on the topic from the perspective of their respective communities and of society as a whole.

Gordhan presented the reasons for the government's mandate for e-tolling, explaining that the tax would be used as maintenance for the roads and infrastructure in the country. He also mentioned that there was already a budget deficit in the country's main budget, related to the world's economic implosion in 2008 and that e-tolling would help paying back this debt.

In an Interview with the Jewish Report, the Chief Rabbi said he had stressed in the meeting the importance of taking into account that many people are facing financial pressures and hardships in their personal lives, and many business are also struggling.


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Israel’s Olympics dilemma:
stand out or blend in

It is 40 years since 11 Israeli athletes were murdered by the Black September Palestinian group at the Munich Olympics in 1972. As the 2012 Games prepare to get underway in London on July 27, Munich’s shadow looms over it, especially with concerns about inadequate British security personnel being trained.

The current conflict-ridden state of the world and Arab countries’ efforts to delegitimise Israel’s existence, adds another ominous tone. And in the past four decades, suicide bombings have become such “everyday occurrences”, with martyrdom attached to them, that a terror attack is probably even more likely today than in ’72. The fanatics who perpetrate such deeds cannot be bought off and don’t care about death.

Hindsight is an exact science. It is easy, looking back, to see the flaws in the German security apparatus in 1972. Israel’s security experts expressed concern at the housing set-up of its athletes and the Germans promised extra precautions. But it couldn’t prevent what happened, particularly when athletes were climbing over the housing compound walls at will in a spirit of fun.

The West at the time was “innocent”, compared with today. An atrocity like a massacre at the Olympics was almost unimaginable. Now, after 9/11 in New York, the London and Madrid train bombings and others, innocence has been replaced by cynicism - that there are no red lines terrorists will not cross. Nor is there a guaranteed way to secure against them. There is always a loophole somewhere.

Much support has been given to a call for a minute’s silence at this year’s Games to remember the slain Israelis, but it is unlikely to happen. Even Alex Gilady, the Israeli member of the IOC, opposes it, saying he does not want to give Israel’s enemies an excuse to boycott the Games. If this happened, many people would point to Israel as the “party-spoiler”.

In response, Israel’s Sport and Culture Minister Limor Livnat, said angrily that the attitude would be different if the athletes weren’t Israelis or Jews.

There are two clear sides among Israel’s supporters: one insists on a minute’s silence as a symbolic token of remembrance, saying that if this is not done, it is akin to glossing over an outrage of huge significance and a betrayal of the Israeli athletes; the other doesn’t want Israel to be spotlighted, but to be there as one team among many, a “normal” country participating in the world’s greatest sporting event. The minute’s silence, they say, would highlight Israel’s “abnormality” and take it out of the “brotherhood of nations”.

From the perspective of Arab and other Muslim countries, if they remain in the stadium and participate in the minute’s silence, they would implicitly acknowledge that what happened was unacceptable - that Israel was done a gross wrong. They might well choose to walk out instead. If this happens, it will take the gloss off the Games itself, and the 2012 London Olympics will be remembered as the one which fell apart, rather than for its sporting achievements.

(At the time of the Munich massacre only Jordan - among all the Arab nations - spoke out against this atrocity.)

The IOC faces a difficult decision. They have chosen thus far not to have the minute’s silence, but to rather sacrifice Israeli feelings than jeopardise the Games. For the IOC this is a small price to pay.

The Olympics has a cherished code of being non-political - an event only to celebrate sporting excellence among nations, an example of how people can come together despite their differences. Would the minute’s silence break this code?

The fact is that the Israeli athletes were not put to death in a remote location unconnected to the Olympics; they were murdered right there at the Games themselves. The violence was implanted right onto this sporting bridge between people. The phrase “lest we forget” is so telling that it cannot be ignored.

For the sake of the integrity of the Games, there must be some tribute to the murdered sportsmen, whether in the form of a minute’s silence or in another way, even if some participants in their hearts cannot empathise with the country they came from.

Israeli political constellation realigns

URIEL HEILMAN
JERUSALEM

For the second time in two months, the Israeli political universe was upended when Shaul Mofaz’s Kadima Party voted to quit Israel’s governing coalition.

Kadima’s departure, the result of a breakdown in negotiations over re-forming Israel’s military draft law to include haredi Orthodox Jews, shatters the 94-seat super-majority that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu controlled in the 120-seat Knesset.

It also raises questions for the future of Kadima, Israel’s draft and the timing of new elections.

While the loss of Kadima’s 28 seats still leaves Netanyahu’s coalition with the majority it needs to govern, the prime minister is now seen as more likely to move up Israel’s next elections, which now are scheduled for the autumn of next year.

Netanyahu had been set to dissolve the Knesset and call for new elections nine weeks ago when Mofaz stunned the Israeli political establishment by bringing Kadima, Israel’s main opposition party, into the governing coalition. The move was seen as a gambit by Mofaz, who had won Kadima’s leadership several weeks earlier, to stave off elections in which Kadima was set to lose significant ground.

For Netanyahu, the coalition deal was a way both to hobble the opposition and give him more leeway in formulating a new military draft law. In February, Israel’s Supreme Court struck down the current draft regulation, called the Tal Law, which excuses haredi Orthodox from universal mandatory military service for Israeli Jews. The court ordered that a new law be enacted by August 1 or else all Israeli Jews would be subject to the draft.

Netanyahu’s other coalition partners include haredi Orthodox parties that oppose drafting large numbers of haredi men.

The debate over the new draft law has roiled Israel in recent weeks. Many Israelis long have resented what they see as the free ride given to haredi Israelis, who are not required to serve in the army but are still eligible for state



Kadima Party leader Shaul Mofaz speaking at a news conference on Tuesday in Petach Tikvah about Kadima’s reasons for leaving the Israeli government coalition. (PHOTOGRAPH: FLASH 90)

welfare benefits.

In the end Kadima quit the government in protest over proposed reforms that it said did not go far enough.

At a news conference, announcing Kadima’s decision to leave the government, Mofaz said he had rejected Netanyahu’s proposal of deferring national service until age 26; Kadima wanted the draft deferral to end at age 22.

“It is with deep regret that I say that there is no choice but to decide to leave the government,” Mofaz told a closed-door meeting of Kadima on Tuesday, according to the Israeli news site Ynet. Three of Kadima’s 28 members voted in favour of staying in the coalition.

“Netanyahu has chosen to side with the draft-dodgers,” Mofaz told reporters after the meeting. “I have reached an understanding that the prime minister has not left us a choice and so we have responded.”

In a letter to Mofaz from Netanyahu’s office, the prime minister responded: “I gave you a proposal that would have led to the conscription of ultra-Orthodox and Arabs from the age of 18. I explained to you that the only way to implement this on the ground is gradually and without tearing Israeli society apart, especially at a time when the State of Israel is facing many significant challenges. I will continue to work toward the responsible solution that Israeli society expects.”

With just two weeks to go before the Tal Law expires, it’s not clear where Kadima’s departure leaves the future of

Israel’s military draft.

What seems certain is that Kadima has been weakened by the episode. Two months ago, polls showed Kadima stood to lose two-thirds of its Knesset seats in new elections. Government opponents criticised Mofaz when he then decided to hitch his centrist party to Netanyahu’s right-wing Likud Party.

“Unfortunately, everything I warned about two months ago and everything I expected to happen, happened,” said Haim Ramon, a Knesset member who quit Kadima when Mofaz joined the government.

“Netanyahu’s allies are the haredim and the settlers. Anyone who thinks otherwise is deluding himself. This move has brought on Kadima’s demise and Shaul Mofaz is the one accountable,” Ramon said, according to Ynet.

If new elections were held today, Kadima likely would implode, with the biggest chunk of its seats going to Likud (Kadima originally was created as an offshoot of Likud) and others to a new centrist party, Yesh Atid, or to leftwing parties.

On Tuesday, Yesh Atid’s chairman, Yair Lapid, called for Netanyahu to declare new elections immediately.

“We are ready for elections, and it’s time to rid Israel of this bad government,” Lapid said, according to Ynet.

For now, analysts are predicting that Netanyahu will call for new elections in early 2013. (JTA)

ACDP and IFP slam Cosatu’s take on Pretoria march

ALISON GOLDBERG

The African Christian Democratic Party and the Inkatha Freedom Party have condemned the “scurrilous” attacks by Cosatu on the SA Zionist Federation and on their own leaders.

Cosatu national spokesman, Patrick Craven, has accused the SAZF of organising the “Africans for Israel” marches in Pretoria and Cape Town on June 28. The marches were in fact organised by the ACDP and IFP, joined by other groups in Pretoria, such as the Shembe Church; and in Cape Town by Israel Advocacy and the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem. They in turn asked the SAZF to join.

Craven’s attack came in the wake of the marches to hand memoranda to Minister of Trade and Industry Rob Davies, to cancel his gazette to label products made in the West Bank and Gaza as products of the Occupied Palestinian Territory; not of Israel.

The joint memorandum in Pretoria signed by ACDP President Rev Kenneth Meshoe and IFP President Mangosuthu Buthelezi, point out that the General Notice “has no legal bases in our law or in international law to support this requirement”, as Buthelezi summarised the complaint.

“The IFP believes this is a provocation aimed at promoting a consumer boycott. The action on the part of the DTI is not in the inter-

ests of South Africans. It reflects the political interest of the ANC which continues to utilise the state to pay off its political debts, confusing the national interests of SA with the private interests of the ANC.”

Craven maintained that the marches were “an abuse of blacks under religious guise to legitimise apartheid in Israel”.

Meshoe responded: “The ACDP and IFP reject the false allegations attacking the SAZF with the contempt they deserve.”

He added that Cosatu, which represented 16 per cent of the labour force, should not be allowed such a powerful position to dictate to government what it should and should not do.



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Déjà vu in anti-Israel propaganda campaign

When I was growing up, I had an imperfect understanding of the Purim narrative, for which I think the way it was taught to Jewish children at the time was mainly to blame. The impression I had for a long time was that redemption came about once Haman was denounced and hanged.

Only later did I realise that in fact this was just a necessary first step in the process and that the actual date when Purim is celebrated, corresponds to the military victory subsequently gained by the Jews over their enemies.

Other details also emerged. Even Esther’s revelation to the king that she was herself a Jew, was not sufficient to overturn Achashverosh’s original decree. Moreover, the latter did not pledge to actually deploy his empire’s resources to defend the Jews. All he essentially did was extend permission for the Jews to organise their own defence.

The crushing defeat of those who planned to annihilate the Jewish people, was accomplished entirely by Jewish arms, something that was in no way guaranteed by Haman’s fall.

What we learn from this was that in terms of the original decree, Jews were to be prevented even from attempting to defend themselves. Had they tried to do so, then presumably the king’s own forces would have intervened to stop them.

Megilat Esther, in addition to recording a series of events taking place some 25 centuries ago, also serves as a prototype of what has confronted the Jewish people throughout history. In light of what has actually transpired, no-one can dismiss its central premises as mere oriental hyperbole.

We know that there exists a hatred against Jews that is so lethal as to bring about attempts to destroy them altogether. Similarly, we can see how the attempt by a world government in ancient times to prevent Jews from taking up arms on their own behalf has clear resonances in our own times.

The reaction to Israel’s 2008-09 military incursion into Gaza represents to date the most ambitious attempt by the international community - or a substantial part of it at least - to criminalise Jewish acts of self-defence.

Palestinian terrorism is air-brushed out of the record...

Certainly, I am aware of no other case at any time of a country not just being put on trial, but convicted in advance by a world tribunal for retaliating against prolonged missile attacks against its own civilian population.

Israel, moreover, went to unprecedented lengths to minimise civilian casualties, against an enemy for whom maximising civilian deaths has always been the explicit intention, and as statistics showed, were remarkably successful in this.

Despite this, it stood accused of committing genocide against a helpless, innocent civilian population, a blood libel that has never been withdrawn.

Depicting Israel as an oppressive apartheid and colonial state is similarly



BARBARIC YAWP
David Saks

underpinned by a desire to deny its people their right to self-defence. One sees this all too clearly in the way Palestinian terrorism is airbrushed out of the record in the by now innumerable denunciations of Israel that are surfacing everywhere one looks.

A local Human Sciences Research Council report of a few years ago concluding, as was intended from the outset, that Israel was guilty of practising apartheid, is a good example.

Those who download the 300-page document need not read through it all to confirm this; all one has to do is do a search for such words as “terrorism”, “suicide bombing” and other obvious terms relating to Palestinian violence - they virtually never occur.

More recently, a documentary on so-called Israeli apartheid has been shown throughout the country. So impressed was the Wits Political Studies Department with it that watching it was made compulsory for its entire student body. In recent months, a Jewish cinema owner in Cape Town has been coming under sustained pressure by anti-Israel lobbyists for refusing to screen the film.

For my part, I have not seen it, but those who have, tell me that there is no reference anywhere to Palestinian terrorism. In other words, such measures as checkpoints, security barriers, road blocks and the like, are depicted as simply happening, without good or indeed any reason.

Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu has been at the forefront of those wringing their hands in anguish over how much the Palestinians are suffering under it all, and how reminiscent it is of what happened to black people under apartheid.

Of course, the system of passes, influx control, group areas and a myriad other repressive measures in South Africa were based solely on the race of the people being targeted, not because among them were people intent on slaughtering every white person they could get their hands on.

Tutu knows, but chooses to deny this, as do the countless others who exploit his elevated reputation to justify their own denial of the realities Israelis face.

On November 10, 1938, the day after Kristallnacht, senior Nazi leader Julius Streicher declared that just as “the Jew butchered 75 000 Persians” in a single night, such would have been the fate of the German people had the Jews succeeded in instituting a new Purim festival in Germany.

Things today are not as extreme as that, at least not yet, but in the propaganda campaigns being conducted by those intent on Israel’s destruction, one recognises that same brazen inversion of reality.

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The Editor, PO Box 84650, Greenside, 2034 email: sharon@sajewishreport.co.za

Looking for

Does anyone have a photo of the shul in Rakishek?

Many Rakishek (Rokiskis, Lithuania) families migrated to South Africa. Ann Rabinowitz, a well-known Rakishek researcher for Jewishgen is desperately trying to find a copy of the photo of the shul in Rokiskis.

Eli Goldstein wants to know if any of our readers can help. He can be contacted at (011) 883-4843 or on his cell phone, 082-460-3287.

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Choice between moral tolerance and taking a stand to make a difference

Rabbi Pini Hecht writes in his parshah, Pinchas, “What would you do?” in last week’s Jewish Report, that Pinchas was a great man. He saw the need of the hour and responded...

In our times of such moral relativism we too are called on to make a choice between moral tolerance or vigilance and the courage to take a stand and make a difference.

The background to this is that Pinchas (grandson of Aaron and grand-nephew of Moses) stabbed to death an Israelite prince and a Midianite woman who were

Iran’s idiotic rhetoric on Israel is becoming tiresome

Ali Larijani, the spokesman of Iran’s parliament, has called for the destruction of the West and of Israel. He says that the Muslim world is tired of the abuse and injustices perpetrated by these countries.

This idiotic rhetoric is becoming tiresome. The whole Arab world is currently in turmoil and massacres occur on a daily basis in those countries.

Furthermore, the Muslim world gave to the Western world suicide bombers and continues with its onslaught of these heinous crimes against humanity.

Islam considers non-Muslims to be infidels (non-believers) and their ideology pursues the destruction of all non-Muslims. This is in line with the same destructive thinking of the Adolf Hitler era. Essentially, it is the same as racism.

The Jewish World

in seven seconds

The New York Jewish Week, New York:
www.thejewishweek.com

“Surge of poor in NY suburbs poses challenge”

A survey among Orthodox and Russian-speaking Jews in the NY suburbs of Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester, has shown a surge in poverty in terms of how hard they’ve been hit by the recession.

The Guardian, London:
www.guardian.co.uk

“Israeli man’s self-immolation triggers further protests against cost of living”

A crowd of around 2 000 activists demonstrated in Tel Aviv on Sunday in solidarity with Moshe Silman (58), who is in a critical condition after setting himself alight on Saturday, in a desperate act of protest at the high cost of living in Israel.

Jerusalem Post, Jerusalem:
www.jpost.com

“Yechimovich to PM: End the political circus, call elections”

Labour leader says the government has reached all-time record of political opportunism, everything Netanyahu does is for his own political survival; asserts November 27 is best date for elections.

behaving indecently immorally in public.

Pinchas took the law into his own hands, but it must be stressed that he was a “chashot” (eminent) person, not just a hoi-polloi.

In contrast with Rabbi Hecht, Rabbi Yossy Goldman (in the latest edition of Jewish Life) recommends influencing uncommitted people by setting an example for others to follow and by befriending them.

Vigilante action is best left to other fringe groups such as the Taliban, Hamas, Al-Qaida, etc.

John Brenner, Cyrildene, Johannesburg

Having regard to these ideologies, is it unreasonable to expect Israel to be accommodating on the Palestinian issue? I think not.

More so, that Israel has decided to bring in the remaining Ethiopian immigrants (some 2 200 Falash Mura) and finds itself short of space.

The ideal portions of land for these people may be found on the West Bank and Gaza and it is my suggestion that the Palestinians living there should be given an opportunity to leave for countries like Iran, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

In conclusion, the fact that Iran is producing deadly anti-tank missiles (Kornet missiles) is humorous indeed. Do they really think that Israel is going to schlep tanks to Iran in the event of a war?

Nathan Cheiman, Northcliff, Johannesburg

Jewish Journal, Los Angeles:
www.jewishjournal.com

“Netanyahu pushes draft bill, without Kadima”

Despite the withdrawal on Tuesday of centrist party Kadima from Israel’s coalition government following its rejection of a compromise universal draft bill, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is expected to seek Knesset approval of the legislation.

Israel News, Israel:
www.ynetnews.com

“MK Plesner: We’ve exposed Netanyahu’s true face”

“PM always favours haredim even at the price of mortgaging our national interest and joint future,” Kadima member of Knesset tells Ynet

The Jewish Chronicle, London:
www.thejc.com

“Edinburgh Festival: no change on Israelis despite boycott campaign”

The organisers of the Edinburgh International Festival have said they will not bow to pressure after pro-Palestinian campaigners called for an invitation to Israeli Batsheva Dance Company to be withdrawn.

European Jewish Press, Western Europe:
www.ejpress.com

“German ambassador tells Knesset: ‘My abilities are limited’ on Cologne circumcision ruling”

Germany’s envoy to Israel Andreas Michaelis pledged to “consider possible consequences” of the controversial ruling against circumcision in Cologne’s district court.

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FINE WINE AND LIQUORS

A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

Nahum Goldmann Fellowship

Our former president, Marlene Bethlehem and two staff members, David Jacobson and Steven Gruzd, recently attended the Nahum Goldmann Fellowship (NGF) programme in Poland. The programme is one of the flagship projects of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, of which Marlene is a vice-president.

It was the second such programme that David participated in. In the interim period, he and SAJBD Cape Council Vice-Chairman Rael Kaimowitz (himself a two-time Nahum Goldmann Fellow) have organised two successful mini-Nahum Goldmann seminars for former fellows and other young Jewish leaders in Cape Town.

NGF grooms future Jewish leadership through bringing together young representatives of Jewish communities throughout the world for an intensive period of education and discussion about their Jewish heritage. It is a very powerful bonding experience and an enormously enriching one. Today, many past Fellows hold senior leadership positions within our community.

Jewish Boer memorial

The Board is partnering with the Ladysmith Siege Museum Trust in erecting a memorial to Jews who died serving on the side of the Boers during the Anglo-Boer War.

Three years ago, we collaborated with the Trust in commemorating the 110th anniversary of the action at Surprise Hill, during which Harry Spanier was the first Jewish Boer to be killed in action. A plaque to Spanier, in Afrikaans and Hebrew, was unveiled on that occasion.

This new monument records the names of all Jews who died in the service of the Boer republics. It is being erected



Above Board
Mary Kluk

National Chairman

near the main Burgher Memorial on the Platrand, just outside Ladysmith. It will be formally unveiled on Monday, August 6, at 11:00, and followed by a function at Platrand Lodge.

A number of Board representatives, including myself, Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft and Associate Director David Saks, will be participating. We would be delighted if other members of our community can be with us for what promises to be a memorable occasion.

Beware of overreacting

Members of our community are justifiably upset when confronted with the public display of Nazi symbols, particularly swastikas. When this entails actually propagating the Nazi ideology (rather than in an educational context, such as in a museum), the Board will always take steps to counteract it.

However, misunderstandings can occur. The swastika is in fact a very ancient symbol, and prior to its misappropriation by the Na-

zis, its meaning was essentially benign. It is an important symbol within the Hindu faith (unlike the Nazi version, it is decorated with dots and displayed upright rather than at an angle).

Recently, we had to diffuse a potentially unpleasant situation when a Hindu woman was (inexcusably) abused and threatened by a Jewish colleague for displaying the sign. I would like to urge our community to learn the differences between the two symbols and not to overreact when confronted by the Hindu version. While some may be uneasy about something so reminiscent of the Nazi scourge, we need to respect the right of others to identify with their culture and recognise when nothing malicious is intended.

Advertorial

Catch the collecting bug at the National Faire



A décor corner showing how to mix antiques with contemporary pieces.

If you are one of the thousands worldwide addicted to watching the many antique reality shows, such as Pawn Stars, American Pickers, Cash in the Attic and Antique Road Show, then you are susceptible to the collecting bug!

The range of collectables is vast - some people adore only the very best in rare antiques; others prefer the slick style of the art deco and art nouveau period, while retro-collectors love the clean lines of modernist retro.

You might be a collector of old tools, historical prints or Action Man dolls, as time marches on, collectables soon turn into antiques and can have intrinsic investment value.

With its unique "Living with Antiques" styling and its international "green" stamp of approval, the National Antiques & Decorative Arts Faire, on at the Sandton Convention Centre from July 20 – 22, is the antiques, collectables and decorative arts event of the year.

According to Clyde Terry, one of the organisers of the Faire, collecting has captured a global audience as people come to value preserving our carbon footprint by recycling, preserving and re-using quality collectables.

"While exceptional art and antiques will

bring phenomenal returns, most good quality antiques will always appreciate in value."

Stephen Falcke, decorator to the rich and famous, will be showcasing his "Living with Antiques" décor styling in a feature stand at the Faire, where he creates an eclectic look by mixing antiques and contemporary pieces.

He will also be giving a talk on how to achieve that blend of old and new at a "Tea & Talk" event on Friday July 20, at 11:00.

A highlight of the Faire will be demonstrations and master classes by John Bromley, master modeller from the British potteries, responsible for designing the figures of Prince William, Kate Middleton and Queen Elizabeth.

British ceramics author and expert Louise Irvine, will give an entertaining talk on Friday July 20 at 13:00 on the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and on collecting royal commemoratives.

Opening night is on July 19. Tickets are R200 per person.

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Some good reads

Four novels explore very different individuals and situations, all rebounding from the consequences of taking extreme risks.

Shakespeare’s Mistress by Karen Harper (Random House Struik, R115)

Historical records show that a man named William Shakespeare was wed to one Anne Whateley, a girl from Temple Grafton just upriver from Stratford-upon-Avon, mere days before his marriage to Anne Hathaway, a union which was neither judicious nor happy.

Drawing on fact, research, conjecture and wishful thinking, Harper explores the enigmatic, often contradictory life and loves of the Bard - known to be a closet Catholic and a man of restless temperament.

While the book is written badly and lacks the authority and gravitas of a serious biography, it nevertheless raises fascinating theories which have just enough substance to be credible.

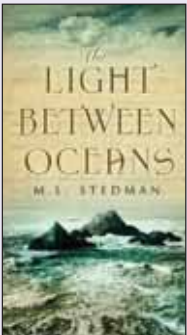


Half Blood Blues by Esi Edugyan (Serpent’s Tail, price on request)

Shortly after the Nazis occupied France in 1940, cabaret star Hieronymus Falk - a black German national - was arrested in a café and never heard of again. Fifty years later his bandmate Sid, who was the only witness of that day, returns to Berlin to unearth Falk’s origins and, hopefully, shed new light on what became of him.

A brilliantly realised novel of tyranny, racism, betrayal and how truth can mean different things to different individuals, even when they act in good faith. The work evokes the gaslit, grimy demi-monde of Paris, and the even murkier, and more perilous, echo

of fascism in war-torn Europe. Highly recommended. *The Light Between Oceans* by ML Stedman (Random House Struik, R215)



First World War veteran Tom Sherbourne has returned to Australia and now lives a peaceful, if alienated existence as a lighthouse keeper on a remote island with his wife Izzy. They would be fully content with their situation except for one tragic factor: their inability to conceive a child. So when a boat washes ashore one morning containing the corpse of a man, as well as a live, crying infant, the Sherbournes embark on an abrupt departure from the moral framework they have always followed - with devastating consequences.

A subtle, nuanced and admirably structured novel which probes the gap between need and stricture.



The Book of War by James Whyte (Jaccana, R155)

An unforgettable journey into the reality of the Eastern Cape frontier wars, and the often

misguided motives of the men fighting them. Whyte’s writing is not easily accessible and his characters are as grim as they are gruesome, but the novel’s semi-Biblical undertone, its historical authenticity and its unrelenting truth reward the effort of persevering.

A welcome exploration of conflicts which have long been overshadowed by this country’s better documented wars, and a valuable addition to South Africana.

Cohen one of 3 SA Jewish artists for Festival d’Avignon

ROBYN SASSEN

This month, three Jewish South Africans headlined the world’s oldest and arguably most important arts festival. William Kentridge, Steven Cohen and Robyn Orlin were among the 38 invited artists for the 66th Festival d’Avignon, France.

While Orlin choreographed new age songstress Camille in a piece entitled *Ilo veyou*, and Kentridge brought *Refuse the Hour*, with composition by Philip Miller and choreography by Dada Masilo, a version of which debuted in Johannesburg last year, Cohen’s *Title Withheld* (For Legal and Ethical Reasons) opened new vistas.

It surpassed critical risks France-based Cohen has taken thus far. In 1989, he emerged on the art scene, flagrantly ignoring the niceties of euphemism. White, homosexual, Jewish and South African, he relentlessly pushed his audience toward immense, important discomfort, in ruthlessly engaging his own identity.

In 2002, in a European bric-à-brac shop, Cohen found a Holocaust diary, begun in June 1939; ending suddenly, a couple of years later. Yellow stars the young Jewish writer

was forced to wear were secreted in its well-written, incisively illustrated pages. Cohen found the writer’s family, to ask permission to use the diary in a work.

They refused, threatening to sue Cohen if he publicised their father’s name, in connection with this diary. He had escaped the death camps, married a non-Jewish woman, started life again; he’d died at 84 in 1981. Legal to-ing and fro-ing eventually resulted in Cohen gaining permission to work with the diary, but with restrictions.

Title Withheld opened in the dank space beneath the Palace of the Popes, Avignon’s main tourist attraction last week. A space foreign to polite performance, it supported Cohen’s focus on the obscenity of discrimination, impeccably.

Consistently meticulous about how he presents his feet, in this work Cohen wears pro-arch machines, designed to strengthen ballerinas’ arches, which force him to spend the piece’s 55 minute duration en pointe. Each machine has an iPad attached to its base: screening the diary being paged through. It’s beneath Cohen’s feet, visible only momentarily.

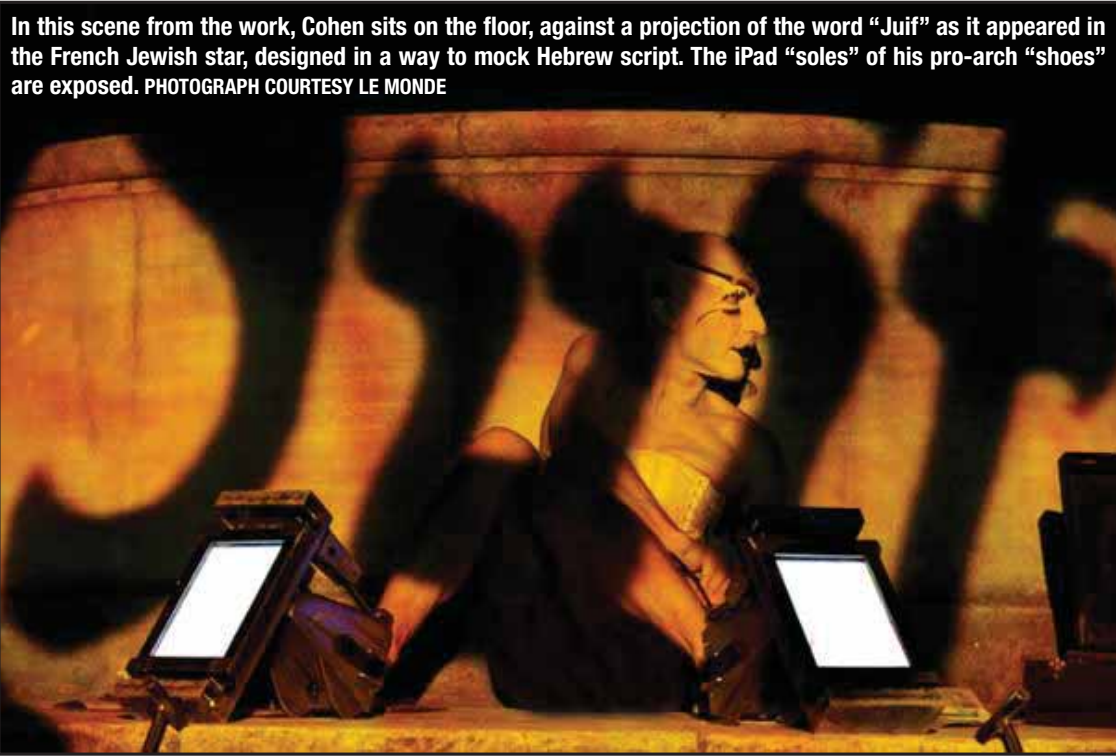
Wearing his traditional cos-

tume of cod-piece, corset and Magen David, Cohen tosses explicit clips of found filmed pornography at the audience exacerbating their unease: they sit tightly on stone steps, under the sound of thousands of tourist footsteps. The work is premised on the horror of hiding in a tiny space and the loadedness of audience interaction.

The set is dominated by a maze of plastic tubing; another tube runs behind the seated audience, both series of tubes contain live rats, choreographed by Hollywood-celebrated animal trainer Guy Demazure and bearing tiny battery-lit Magen Davids.

On paper, this seems fantastic, if not illegal: Indeed, Cohen’s logic stumped legal counsel: what if there are misogynophes in the audience, they asked. Cohen countered: what if there are homophobes? Or anti-Semites?

It’s unlikely that *Title Withheld*, easily surpassing the reach of defining moments in performance art and difficult to stomach as anti-war narratives like Günter Grass’ *“The Tin Drum”* (1959), will perform locally. It travels to Norway in October; Bordeaux and Lille in November. Visit www.latitudescontemporaines.com



In this scene from the work, Cohen sits on the floor, against a projection of the word “Juif” as it appeared in the French Jewish star, designed in a way to mock Hebrew script. The iPad “soles” of his pro-arch “shoes” are exposed. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY LE MONDE

News in Brief

GADDAFI’S MOTHER WAS JEWISH, HIS PROTOCOL CHIEF SAYS

JERUSALEM - Muammar Gaddafi’s mother was Jewish, the late Libyan leader’s chief of protocol told an Arabic newspaper. Nuri al-Samara told the daily Al-Hayat that Gaddafi’s mother was Jewish, the Israeli daily Maariv reported on its NRG news website. At 18 she married a Muslim man and converted, according to reports. Last year, a 76-year-old Jewish resident of the Israeli city Netanya told Maariv that Gaddafi was her cousin.

“My grandmother converted to Islam but never forgot her roots,” Gita Boaron told Maariv. “She would come to visit us, give my mother money and say ‘give to the synagogue, donate to the Jews’.” (JTA)

US WON’T FORCE MORSI-BIBI MEETING, CLINTON SAYS

CAIRO - Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu should meet, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said, but the Obama administration will not force the issue.

“It is up to the two nations and the president and the prime minister to make their own scheduling plans,” Clinton said last Saturday during a news conference in Cairo with Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohamed Amr. “We have done nothing. That’s not our role; that would not be appropriate.”

In answer to a reporter’s question about the peace treaty signed more than 30 years ago between Israel and Egypt, Amr said during the news conference: “Egypt continues to respect all treaties signed as long as the other party to the treaty respects the treaty itself.”

He added that Morsi on Saturday “reiterated that Egypt’s understanding of peace is that it should be comprehensive, exactly as stipulated in the treaty itself,” including Israel’s return to pre-June 4, 1967 borders and a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.(JTA)

REPORT: MAARIV GOING ONLINE ONLY, WITH FRIDAY EXCEPTION

JERUSALEM - The Hebrew daily newspaper Maariv will move to only publish in digital form except on Fridays, an Israeli business daily is reporting.

The newspaper will appear online during the week and print an expanded Friday edition, Globes reported on Monday, citing unnamed sources. The business daily did not give a date for the change.

Globes also reported that Maariv is putting its printing house up for sale and that its Friday edition will be printed by another newspaper’s printing house.

Maariv, which has a right-of-centre bent, has slashed its staff in recent months. (JTA)

AMERICANS KIDNAPPED IN THE SINAI

JERUSALEM - Two American tourists and their Egyptian guide were kidnapped in the Sinai Desert last week Friday, according to Egyptian military and police officials.

The Bedouin kidnappers are demanding the release of a jailed tribesman, according to news reports.

The tourists and guide were taken when the kidnappers stopped their tourist bus, according to The Associated Press.

Robberies and kidnappings in the Sinai have increased since the ouster of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last year.

A US Embassy spokesman said the embassy was looking into the kidnapping and did not provide additional details. (JTA)

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Compiled by Marlene Bilewitz. Cell 083-475-0288

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SANS 10400 is going to have a massive impact on how we build

**LARA HOOD
HOOD NAPIER ARCHITECTS**

Walk into any architect's office, developer's boardroom, or coffee shop in Parkhurst in Johannesburg in the last six months and chances are you would have heard someone in a black turtleneck bemoaning the new energy efficiency building regulations - SANS 10400, part XA - which has become the new bone of contention in the architectural profession.

But what is XA in fact and how does it affect you?

Well, the good news is that if you have an existing home, it doesn't affect you, although applying some of the principles will cut down the size of that dreaded electricity bill. If you, however, are building a house or doing alterations,

you need to comply.

SANS 10400 aims to cut down energy consumption in buildings by regulating three main areas: hot water heating; insulation of the building envelope; and the efficiency of the lighting system.

Remember, every time you switch on a light, a power station somewhere belches smoke into the air.

The hot water heating system is fairly simple: 50 per cent of hot water must be by means other than electrical. This means solar geysers or heat pumps.

If you opt for the solar option, make sure your geysers provide 100 litres of hot water per person. In other words, for a four-person household you should install 2 x 200 litre geysers running on at least two panels each. Face the panels north!

Heat pumps still run on electricity, but reduce the power to the geyser by 50 per cent. This is also a good option if you have existing geysers which you wish to make more efficient.

The insulation of the building envelope aims to reduce heat escaping and cold entering your house. Under the new regulations, your roof requires extra insulation and the floor must be insulated if you have under-floor heating, to stop heat escaping into the ground.

It is the glazing calculations, however, that have the industry in a spin. If your glazing is over 15 per cent of the net floor area, your architect will need to calculate every window's R value. Depending on the size of the windows, you may have to use e-glass, or double glazing.



"People in glass houses..." Will South African architects still be able to design in glass and steel?

Continued on page 13

Natural look and feel, the hallmark of Rhoms wooden flooring

Rhoms is the premier supplier and installer of wooden flooring in the South African market. It is one of only two South African companies in wooden flooring that has actually been certified by the worldwide body FSC (Forest Stewardship Council www.fsc.org), since 2005.

The trend today is more and more towards a natural look and feel. Our laminated floors in super naturals faithfully reproduces the most exquisite features of real timber at R199 per m². And for R240 per m², XL - Extra Large boards (282mm as compared with the standard 189mm) with V-groove sides combine with the magic of endless beauty, to create a luxurious and spacious interior to enhance any room at a fraction of the price of real wood. But the major attraction is that the installation is so quick and painless.

Laminate has always been sold as a DIY product in Europe. Simple rules must be followed exactly to the letter and a great installation can be achieved. In our stores we demonstrate how it's done. But the biggest factor is a flat screed; get this right and the infamous click clack sound is gone.

If DIY is not your scene, then our in-house teams will do the installation. Our imported European laminate floors are made to strict quality EU classifications, but the most important factor is the backing of the South African supplier to uphold these guarantees



On the engineered range, Rhoms brings the most exciting development in flooring technology and innovation to South Africa.

Reclaimed flooring is now available in engineered products and they are a hot product. Oiled surfaces, which bring out the real wood colours and feel are the way to go. No messy traditional sanding and sealing is ever required again as a simple yearly maintenance programme of a deep clean and oiling brings the floor back to its original status, making the floor look brand new.

We offer a mix of wire brushed, hand cobbled, raised knots, thermo treated and even fine sawn in French and European oak. Low maintenance is the key to our floors.

• **For more information, contact (011) 465-4219 or visit www.rtw.co.za**

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Each plank is manufactured using real wood, modern technology, according to age-old craftsmanship and carefully aged with revolutionary techniques. The boards are finished with contemporary oiling techniques.

The variety of finishes range from brushed, distressed and smoked to hand-scraped and oiled. Lively colour variations, filled knotholes, cracks, sapwood, pinholes and other natural occurring characteristics of wood are a part of the charm of these aged floors.

For the discerning buyer the latest world trend is for reclaimed flooring which we now offer in an engineered product. This allows the beauty of timber with the benefits and advantages associated with the latest technology. No picture can show the beauty of these floors, they need to be seen in our showroom.

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Good preparation is key to success

SHANNON PRESTIA
MARKETING MANAGER, VERSUS
PAINT SPECIALISTS

Why it is important to prepare walls before painting

All surfaces require a certain amount of surface preparation. If this is not done properly, the end result could be the failure of the complete finishing system.

As a painting contracting company, a large proportion (up to 50 per cent) of our efforts are in the preparation of the surface. This will result in a sound and professional appearance.

When obtaining a quote for a painting job, always make sure that the contractor has a good preparation policy.

How to prepare the walls for painting

In order to paint a wall, it needs to be clean, dry and free from imperfections. If the wall has been painted a number of times and there are runs or drips on the old surface, it may need to be sanded down to obtain a smooth finish. Depending on the condition, you may be able to simply go over rough ar-

eas with a piece of sandpaper or a sanding block, then remove the dust with a clean tack rag or linen cloth.

Once the surface is smooth, inspect the wall for any cracks, holes or other surface imperfections that needs to be repaired.

Small holes and cracks can be filled with spackling. Apply a small amount in and over the hole with a putty knife and smooth carefully, feathering the putty out in all directions as you move away from the hole. Allow the hole to dry before continuing and if necessary, sand and fill the hole a second time. Once the filler is completely dry, sand the surface smooth.

Larger cracks or missing areas of plaster will need to be repaired with patch plaster.

Wipe the walls down with a damp cloth to remove any dust from the surface. For a neat finish remove all lug covers, light switch covers and window coverings before you begin.

Prepare your room by removing as much furniture as you can; what you can't remove put into the centre of the room and cover with a drop sheet.

If you are painting a plastered wall that

has never been painted before, you need to apply a primer to the wall before painting. Likewise if you are painting a previously painted surface, you need to prime any areas that were patched in your preparation work.

What materials are available for homeowners (and pros and cons of these products)

We have over 14 different textured products for the homeowner to choose from. It all depends on what kind of look and feel the room or house calls for. We have everything from sprayed-on applications for a rougher textured look, to a polished marble-type finish.

The pros of these products are that they are a lot more luxurious in look and feel than normal paint. They are also a lot more durable and protective for your wall surface. They turn any home or building into a more luxurious asset in an instant.

The cons of the products are that they are more expensive than paint to apply in the short term; however long-term they prove to be more cost effective. They are also not a DIY product. A specialised team of applicators are needed to install our products.



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Nestor Martin fireplaces – practical and elegant



Enviroheat SA prides itself in being the sole supplier of the Nestor Martin brand of Multi-Fuel (wood or anthracite burning) fireplaces in South Africa. Nestor Martin brings with it over 150 years' experience in craftsmanship and a tradition of uncompromising engineering, which allows Nestor Martin to combine elegant modern design, with extraordinary performance in their collection of stoves and fireplaces.

Nestor Martin's internationally patented Woodbox technology is the most significant advance in solid fuel combustion science this decade. It offers high efficiency, reduced consumption, low pollutant emissions as well as spectacular flame effects and responsiveness.

The Woodbox models are also the first-ever solid fuel stoves with the option of having a patented thermostatic remote control system which allows you to control the burn rate from the comfort of your couch or to let the remote control automatically regulate the ambient room temperature when on "auto mode".

Nestor Martin's patented Woodbox technology preheats the combustion air to over 200 degrees centigrade and delivers it slowly and evenly over the fire to obtain spectacular flame effects, from roaring fire, to multi-coloured secondary combustion flames that dance above the logs. Who says you can't play with fire without getting burned?

In this day and age, where every household is called upon to participate in preserving our environment, it is important to heat your home, using renewable energy in an efficient and economical manner.

The ultra-clean combustion of the Woodbox system allows the Nestor Martin fireplaces to meet the strictest international environmental standards. The Woodbox fireplaces boast CO² emissions which are as low as 10 times cleaner than the legal limit set by the European standard.

With a variety of sizes, styles and heat outputs available, Enviroheat SA will provide you with a Nestor Martin fireplace to match your heating needs, and to exceed anything you might expect.

• For more information, please visit our website on www.enviroheatsa.co.za

Pembury Lodge for the discerning retiree

MARLENE BILEWITZ

The last child has finally left the nest. You're tired of wandering around in a great big empty shell, lost and tied down to a larger than needed home, when all you really want is to be able to lock the front door and go off to wherever and whenever you feel like it.

Your "golden years" should be spent enjoying the rewards of a lifetime of hard work. Pembury Lodge will ensure that you have a wonderful new home.

Pembury offers all the extras for a gracious retirement - delicious meals with a large variety, fresh ingredients and careful preparation by expert catering staff to be enjoyed in a comfortable yet elegant ambience.

There are spacious rooms, entertainment, security and three levels of medical care - independent, mid-care and frail care - if and when needed.

All rooms have en-suite bathrooms and M-Net, while the suites have a kitchenette and separate lounge. Just like home, but a whole lot easier.

Pembury Lodge, offering luxury, secure retirement, is the perfect retirement solution for people who value their independence, yet want help close at hand when it's needed.

The lodges all have 24-hour security and consist of rooms, bedsitters and one-

and two-bedroom apartments.

Units can have a kitchen, patio and undercover parking, depending on the particular lodge.

There are three lodges:

Bryanston - All rooms en-suite of various sizes, with or without patio.

Melrose - Studios, one- and two-bedroom apartments ranging in sizes from 47m² - 123m².

Sandton - Pembury Sandton is minutes from Sandton City and offers many extras such as exercise classes, occupational therapy, aqua-aerobics, entertainment and transport to shopping centres. Whatever your interests, you'll find something to enjoy.



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To build, to buy, or to renovate? This is the question

ADRIENNE HERSCH
ADRIENNE HERSCH PROPERTIES

For the very lucky few, the answer is glaringly obvious. But when your home becomes too small, your neighbourhood a little seedy and your maintenance a little too regular, it's time to make one of three decisions that every homeowner has encountered at least once: To build, to buy or to renovate?

There are no easy answers. I have some advice, but first and foremost: Don't listen to other people's horror stories about building, buying or renovating. You'll be running for the hills before you have all the information.

Listen to the experts who know what they're talking about. And make no mistake - this is exciting stuff. If you have the opportunity to refresh your existing space, build the home of your dreams or find that it already exists and you can afford it, it can be an enormously satisfying experience.

When it comes to refurbishing, don't make the mistake of thinking renovation is automatically the cheapest option. If the fundamental layout of your home no longer accommodates your current needs, it might be time to move on. And if you've already found the perfect home while you're considering a renovation, a move may be written in the stars.

When considering staying and fixing up

versus moving on to better things, ask yourself what matters. If you're happy and settled in your area, renovating will allow you to stay there. Costs will certainly be easier to manage and you may even be able to remain in your home while you remodel.

Like everything worth doing in life, do it properly. Work with the best people you can afford and ask lots of questions.

If you're the kind of person who walks into someone's home and thinks: "If I had built this house, I would have put that wall there... moved this over there and why would they build the atrium here?" you should probably look into building your next home.

Aside from the obvious (cost!), there are two things to keep in mind about building a home, namely time and timing. Building always takes time (usually more than you think) plus the timing of moving out of your current home and into your new one will often not be perfectly aligned.

Remember to budget for the extra, unforeseen costs of both the build itself (inevitable, with modifications and repairs an unshakeable reality of house building) and temporary accommodation while you wait.

Building is not for everyone. You need low blood pressure, the patience of Job and great problem-solving skills.

You need to be available to make deci-

sions quickly if challenges arise. Of course, you could delay those decisions, but this impacts the outcome and timing of completion.

You'll obviously source the best providers you can afford, but as great as your architect, builder, plumber, electrician and landscaper may be, problems do come up and ultimately, everyone will look to you for the final say.

If you embrace the process and collaborate with your contractors, you'll learn a lot about this fascinating industry and with patience and perseverance, build your ideal home.

If the property business were compared to extreme sports, buying a home would be like hiking down a mountain, while building a new home would be more like base jumping off it.

Building seems far riskier than buying. But not so fast. Most houses will need some additional work. Knowing when to walk away from a bidding battle is a tough part of the process and you don't want to feel bullied into stretching yourself beyond what you can afford.

Buying is also a waiting game. You could end up being on the house-hunting circuit way longer than you want to be. My advice is simple. Take your time but don't confuse yourself with too many options. Don't buy



under pressure, but if it's the home you really want, move quickly if the seller agrees.

I hope my guidelines have given you a little bit to think about, hopefully a few factors you haven't considered before. It is the classic, homeowner's trifold conundrum - buy, build or renovate?

Sometimes the decision is obvious. Sometimes budget, timing and location make the decision for us. Either way, it is a wonderful thing to be able to improve or enhance your existing living space or begin an adventure creating a new one. No matter what you choose, have fun. Remember, these are nice decisions to make.

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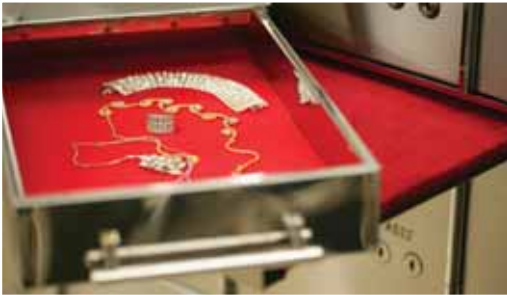
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Your valuables safe in IBV’s care

Precious assets are particularly vulnerable to loss or theft when moving house or doing alterations. A sound precaution would be to store them in a safe environment until needed.



BARRY BILEWITZ

Ensnconced beneath the Da Vinci Hotel in Mandela Square in Sandton, lies an impregnable fortress, safeguarding millions of rands worth of treasure.

This is not a dungeon-like tomb with gold coins spilling out of old wooden chests; on the contrary, here there is a sense of light spaciousness. The elegant décor in the waiting area and private booths, rivals that of the 5-star hotel on top of it.

The understated luxury and state-of-the-art security, which includes fingerprint scanning, dual-key safety boxes and a half-ton steel door at the entrance, reminds one of a Swiss bank.

Actress Charlize Theron got her break into the film business - making a transition as successful model - by loudly voicing her frustrations in a bank queue.

Ashok Sewnarain, already a successful financier, hotelier and property developer, got



his idea for securing people’s treasures, from listening to someone’s frustrations in a bank queue.

“A well-to-do customer was complaining loudly about the bank being unable to offer her a safety deposit box. The attendant said the waiting list was several years and the more I thought about it, the more I became convinced that this was a genuine opportunity.”

In May 2005, International Bank Vaults (IBV) opened at the Gateway Shopping Centre in Umhlanga.

“I quickly became an expert in vault design, safe doors, bullet-proof glass, the latest electronic security systems, not to mention the sourcing and training of trustworthy, reliable personnel.”

But IBV’s real challenges began after it opened its armoured doors for business.

“We had to convince the public and the market that we were a fit custodian for billions of rands worth of valuables. More than one senior



bank manager told me it was only a matter of time before I would be forced to close.”

As wealthy clients began raving about the service and facilities offered by his super vault, his new business became lucrative. Last year he opened the second vault at Mandela Square. This time there was no shortage of clients, many referred by banks.

IBV’s client base now exceeds 5 000 and clients pay between R185 and R600 (size dependant) a month for access to a safety deposit box in his vaults.

IBV has partnered with international insurance brokers AON to offer insurance coverage for clients’ valuables at very competitive rates. IBV also offers clients the facility to buy and store gold coins – which has proved so popular that many now refer to IBV jokingly as the “gold bank”.

Sewnarain is also planning to open a vault in London, the first of a franchise he plans to roll out at upmarket malls around the world.

SANS 10400 is going to have a massive impact on how we build

Continued from page 9

As my teenage daughter pointed out, standing in our family room with its floor-to-ceiling glass window: “ This house is cold! It has too much glass!”

“Well yes... but isn’t it beautiful?”

Although I confess the thought of running for the hills or going subsistence farming did appeal a while back, we are getting ourselves together as a profession and starting to wonder why we didn’t design this way all along.

The only problem is the cost of all this. I do question whether these new regulations ignore the fact that in summer I can open my massive sliding glass window to let the air flow through the house, or that in winter, when the sun is lower, it comes streaming in. And yes, at night, for three months of the year, I should invest in heavy curtains and tell my teenager to put on an extra jersey.

• Lara Hood of Hood Napier Architects, is a professional architect registered with The South African Council for the Architectural Profession. [www.hoodnapierarchitects .com](http://www.hoodnapierarchitects.com).

To contact IBV, tel (011) 783-6101 (Sandton) and the (031) 566-3984 (Umhlanga).



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All about ins and outs and ups and downs...

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY JOY COMAROFF

Captain Peter Clark, a pilot from the South African Airways, recently spoke to the grade one learners at King David Victory Park Primary School, about the ins and outs and ups and downs

of flying. The learners tried on his cap and rummaged through his bag, much to their delight. Thanks to Darryl Beira for organising this visit. Pictured with Captain Clark, are Joshua Beira; Talia Sharp; and Daniel Sundelson.



Madiba gets a 'Happy Birthday' from KDVP Primary kids

STACY FLEISHMAN PHOTOGRAPH: ORA STRAUSS

King David Victory Park Primary pupils recognised Mandela Day on Wednesday – Madiba's 94th birthday - by singing Happy Birthday to Madiba in the school hall.

Nelson Mandela International Day, also known as Mandela Day, is held on July 18 each year. The day commemorates Mandela's achievements in working towards conflict resolution, democracy, human rights, peace, and reconciliation.

The grade three pupils of King David Victory Park, made 67 sandwiches which were donated to Sekolo Sa Beroko in Blairgowrie. Pictured proudly displaying their sandwiches, are back: Noah Judin; Samuel Class; Amber Michel; and Amira Benguri-Karstaedt. Front: Jayden Arenson; David Kirsch; and Danica De Aguiar.



Oodles of holiday fun for KDLPPS kids

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY MELANIE DICK

Children from various Jewish pre-primary schools came together at a holiday school programme

held at King David Linksfield Pre-Primary School in Johannesburg.


The children played games, did creative activities, science experiments (as seen in the picture), baking, movement rings

and more.

They thoroughly enjoyed the experience and had lots of fun The programme was run by teachers Melanie Dick and Lianne Shuan.



Science experiments are such fun and holiday school is cool!



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What's On

NOTE: Deadline for all entries is 12:00 on the Friday prior to publication.

Today, Friday (July 20)

- **UZLC** hosts Isaac Reznik, who will speak on “My Judaism, My Jews”. Venue: Our Parents Home. Time: 12:45 - 14:00. Contact: Gloria, at 072-127-9421 or (011) 485-4851.
- The *Chevrah Kadisha* is hosting “Unity Monthly Rosh Chodesh Shacharis” with singing of Hallel. Venue: Our Parents Home, in the shul, followed by hot drinks and muffins. Time: 18:15. Contact: Rabbi Shaun Wingrin for more information, on 082-449-6273.

Sunday (July 22)

- *Second Innings* is hosting Professor-Emerita Rosalie Finlayson on “Intercultural Understanding”. Time: 10:00 for 10:30. Venue: The Gerald Horwitz Lounge, Golden Acres. Contact Grecia Gabriel (011) 532-9718. Cost: R20 members, R40 non-members.

- *RCHCC* in association with the JHGC will screen the acclaimed documentary, “Shoah”, by Claude Lanzman. Venue: Clive M Beck Auditorium, RCHCC. Time: 19:00. Donation: R60 (incl refreshments. Booking: Hazel or René (011) 728-8088/8378, after hours (011) 728-8378. E-mail: rhc@telkomsa.net or rene.s@telkomsa.net .

Monday (July 23)

- The *UJW House & Garden Circle* meets today. Contact: UJW office (011) 648-1053 for details.

- *Chevrah Kadisha Community Services* is offering an 8-week “Divorce Support Group” for people who have been through, or are going through a divorce. It starts today. Reconnect. Rebuild. Renew. Gain support and need to know practical and legal information. Bookings or more information, call Sheila on (011) 532-9653.

Tuesday (July 24)

- *Chevrah Kadisha Social Services* presents a focus evening on “Everything You’ve Ever Wanted to Know About Food Addiction and Eating Disorders”, featuring guest speakers Gaye Turiel, social worker and Liane Lurie, clinical psychologist. Venue: Sandringham Gardens Auditorium. Time 19:30 - 21:00. Refreshments served. Donations appreciated. Contact: Lara: (011) 532-9793/Tania: (011) 532-971/Darrin: (011) 532-9733.

- *UJW's Helen Suzman branch* presents three well-known authors, Anton Harber “Diepsloot”, Joy Davidson “Another Mountain, Another View” and Lauren Segal “One Law, One Nation”, for stimulating personal accounts of their backgrounds and their books. Venue: 1 Oak Street. Time 10:00. Donation: R75 (incl refreshments). Contact (011) 648-1053, fax 086 273-3044.

Wednesday (July 25)

- *RCHCC* in association with the JHGC will screen the acclaimed documentary, “Shoah”, by Claude Lanzman. Venue: Clive M Beck Auditorium, RCHCC. Time: 19:30. Donation: R60 (incl refreshments. Booking: Hazel or René (011) 728-8088/8378, after hours (011) 728-8378. E-mail: rhc@telkomsa.net or rene.s@telkomsa.net .

- *UJW CT adult education division* hosts Urmila Jithoo, author of an unusual cookbook, who will talk on “Serendipitous Experiences Whilst living in New York”. Venue: Stonehaven. Time: 10:00 for 10:30. Entrance:R20 (incl refreshments). Enquiries: (021) 434-9555 (mornings only).

- *Chevrah Kadisha Community Services* is offering an 8-week “Parenting Skills Group” - starting today - for parents of teenagers. Gain practical parenting skills, understand your teen’s world, learn to connect to and assist your teen on their journey into adulthood. Bookings or more information: Call Lara on (011) 532-9793.

Call for Cameron should strengthen ‘Munich Minute’

The call for a “Munich Minute” at the opening ceremony of this year’s London Olympic Games is gathering momentum, despite the International Olympic Committee’s (IOC) stand that there would be no official observance of the 1972 massacre of Jews at the 1972 Munich Games.

JACK MILNER

The governments of Germany, Australia, the US Senate and Canada, as well as at least 50 British MPs, led by Conservative Bob Black-



It appears the call for a Munich Minute at this year’s London Olympics has driven Lord Coe to tears.

man, have signed an “Early Day Motion” calling for a minute’s silence to mark the 40th anniversary of the Munich massacre to be observed.

Now a former Labour minister has written to British Prime Minister David Cameron, calling on him to back the remembrance of the 11 Israeli athletes murdered in Munich.

Denis MacShane, Labour MP for Rotherham and Europe minister under Tony Blair, said David Cameron should follow the example set at Euro 2012 in Poland, during which the England team visited Auschwitz “in the spirit of ‘Never Again’”.

The Jewish Chronicle reports that MacShane urged Cameron to push the IOC to change its stance on an official commemorative silence or agree to “some moment of commemoration”, which the IOC has so far refused to support.

“The IOC will come up with the usual line about not mixing sport and politics,” he wrote. “But at the recent Euro 2012 competition, the players and stadiums showed signs ‘No to Racism’ and the English and other football teams visited Auschwitz.

“If the IOC treats the memory of the dead Jewish Olympians with indifference than shame on them,” he said. “But I am sure most MPs would welcome some statement from the British Government in sup-

port of a commemoration moment.

“If the IOC persists in its stubborn disregard of the anti-Jewish atrocity committed at the 1972 Olympics, then I hope Britain can organise its own ceremony to say again ‘Never Again’ to Jew-killing in the name of any ideology or cause.”

Last week Thursday Lord Coe, chairman of the London Organising Committee, agreed to hold a “personal” memorial to the dead athletes during the opening ceremony. He told staff at the capital’s City Hall that he would mark the anniversary during a “personal moment”. It is not clear how he intends to do this.

A campaign led by Jewish leaders worldwide and Ankie Spitzer, widow of murdered

fencing coach Andrei Spitzer, has so far failed to sway the International Olympic Committee, which has repeatedly refused to agree to a minute’s silence forming part of the opening ceremony.

Lord Coe met members of staff at City Hall for a “tea break” session, to thank them for their work on the London Games. He was quizzed on plans for a memorial.

Two separate memorial events are planned this summer for the Munich athletes. One is organised by the Israeli Embassy, Israeli Olympic Committee and the Jewish community in London on August 6 and the other, organised by the Zionist Federation a month later, will mark the anniversary of the massacre.

Final Maccabi bowls call

JACK MILNER

Maccabi South Africa is making a final call to all lawn bowlers, male or female, who wish to compete in next year’s Maccabi Games, to put their names forward.

“We understand there was some con-

fusion as to the cut-off date, but we have extended it to July 31,” explained Mervyn Tankelowitz. “However, this is a final deadline and there will be no further extensions.”

• Those interested can contact Mervyn on 083-456-8088.

Battle of the cricketing giants

SIMON APFEL

The Wimbledon curtain-raiser is over, the forthcoming Olympics a mere sideshow. On July 19, the world’s number-one and number-two-ranked test cricket nations start to slug it out for first place, as fans everywhere rub their hands with glee for the most eagerly anticipated sporting event since the 1993 Bakers u9-Mini cricket final between KEPS and HA Jack Primary, where a certain SR Apfel hit the winning runs, top-scored with eight not out, and was adjudged man of the match, while his parents wept with pride on the sidelines.

Then again expectations are often not met. For an illustration, look no further than our own team’s performances at World Cups since 1996. Nevertheless, the form book suggests this is going to be an absolute cracker. The spoils have been shared in three of eight utterly transfixing series, with SA claiming three series wins, and England two.

Memories of classic duels abound: Allan Donald’s onslaught against Mike Atherton and the infuriating Jack Russell at The Wanderers in ’95; White Lightning again battering a similarly unyielding Atherton at Old Trafford in ’98; a young Graeme Smith plundering two enormous double centuries off the inexperienced but unflagging Anderson, Flintoff and Harmison in 2003; Steyn flinging down one unplayable delivery after the next as Collingwood played and missed for four-and-a-half hours in Cape Town.

So, how do SA and England measure up at the moment? Enthrallingly, we are looking at possibly the best teams either side has fielded for decades.

To paraphrase the great Andy Zaltzman, there have been more false dawns in England cricket than there have been through the window of an insomniac who lives next to a lighthouse. However, since 2009, the Three Lions have become a team of enforc-

ers, putting to the sword Australia (twice), India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, on their way to the number one ranking.

England’s bowling stables are currently packed full of fillies. Their batsmen are insatiable run machines with the technical resources to feed their appetite. They also have home advantage. Although some may argue that, given the make-up of their side, they’d enjoy even greater home advantage in South Africa - where they could at least stay with their parents.

As for the respective captains, Strauss and Smith have more in common than their nationalities. With their square jaws and lead-from-the-front bravado, neither would be out of place calling the shots on a mediaeval battlefield. Smith himself will soon be starring in 277 - a sequel to 300, and featuring a ball-by-ball recreation of his marathon innings at Edgbaston.

South Africa’s first-choice bowling attack is superior even to England’s, earning favourable comparisons with the fearsome West Indies pace quartet of the ’80s. The batting line-up is almost as formidable: with, the unswayable Amla oozes silk; AB de Villiers’ hand-eye co-ordination alone is enough to ensure he becomes one of the all-time greats; and Jacques Kallis is the face and body of Sanex soap.

The loss of keeper Boucher may indeed be a blow, and one unlikely to be allayed by the inclusion of Thami Tsolekile. On the other hand, if AB dons the keeping gloves, it could make up for South Africa’s uncharacteristically wonky lower order, where England undoubtedly have the edge.

In short, things are balanced beautifully as we head towards the first test at The Oval.

Note: For those wondering about the Jewish content of this article, AB de Villier’s mom does a spinning class with Shoshana Cohen, who runs the kosher deli at the Norwood Pick n Pay.



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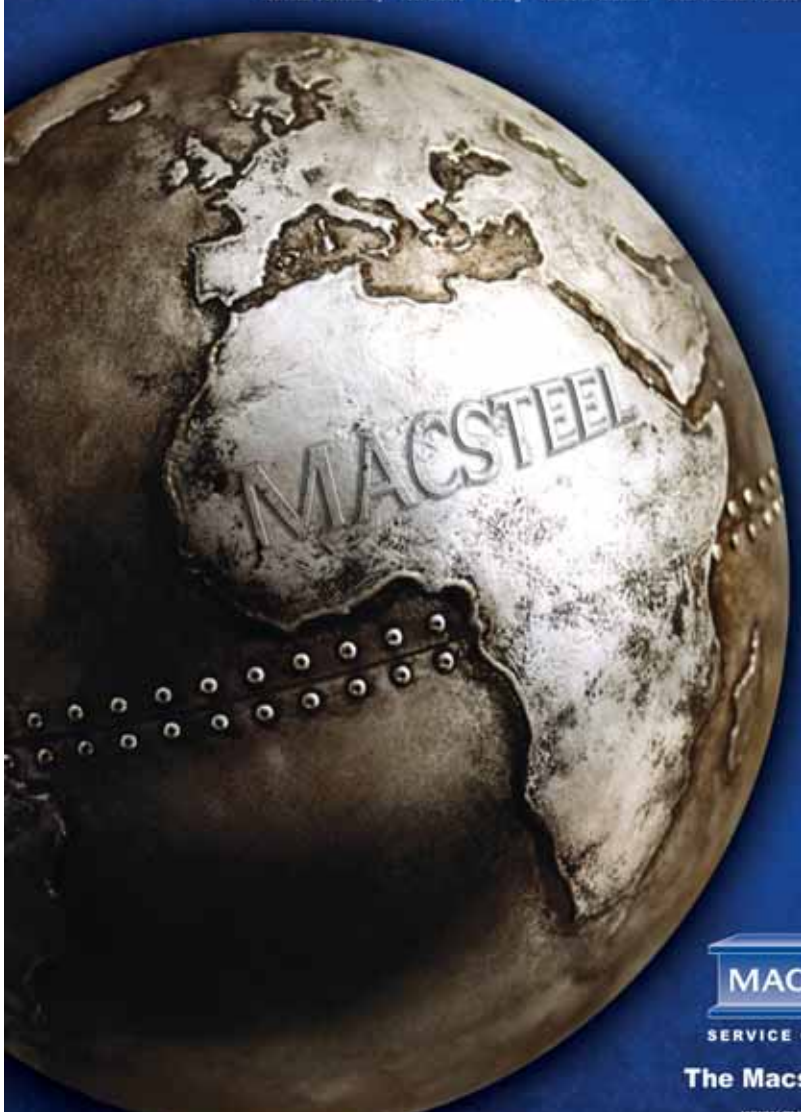
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