



William Kentridge,  
colour photolithograph  
R80 000 - R100 000



Peter Clarke,  
gouache on paper  
R25 000 - R35 000



Alexander Calder,  
lithograph  
R25 000 - R35 000



William Kentridge,  
etching  
R13 000 - R18 000



Cecil Skotnes, carved,  
incised and painted  
panel  
R120 000 - R160 000

View catalogue for upcoming auction at [www.rkauctioneers.co.za](http://www.rkauctioneers.co.za) • 011 789 7422 • 083 675 8468 • 12 Allan Road, Bordeaux, Johannesburg

# south african Jewish Report

Volume 21 - Number 26 ■ July 28 2017 ■ 5 Av 5777

[www.sajr.co.za](http://www.sajr.co.za)

Deputy Director General of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa gives Israeli Ambassador Arthur Lenka a parting gift before he heads home after his four-year tenure in South Africa. See page 5.



# Leaving us with 'relentless optimism'

## A Galaxy of Stars

Attending or advertising? Get in touch...

Absa  
jewish achiever awards  
2017

Absa Jewish Achiever Awards | August 13 2017

**Shabbat Times this week**

Starts	Ends	
17:21	18:13	Johannesburg
17:46	18:40	Cape Town
17:03	17:56	Durban
17:24	18:16	Bloemfontein
17:17	18:11	Port Elizabeth
17:10	18:04	East London

# Temple Mount protests hit SA shores

NICOLA MILTZ

Hundreds of Boycott Divestment and Sanctions SA (BDS) supporters took to Cape Town's streets on Wednesday in the start of their rolling protest action to condemn what they term "Israel's siege of Temple Mount" in Jerusalem.

"You can see how these activists continue to escalate tensions and try to incite more anger and rage," Ben Swartz national chairman of the SA Zionist Federation (SAZF) said on Tuesday, referring to the BDS-planned protests.

The SAZF and the SA Jewish Board of Deputies have condemned Palestinian incitement to violence in their reaction to the recent events on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

"The President of Egypt implored all sides to calm down and that's the kind of leadership we should be seeing here in South Africa and in the rest of the world," said Swartz.

Following the fatal stabbing of two Israeli Druze policemen at Lions' Gate recently, rioting and violent attacks erupted in Jerusalem and other locations. In response, added security measures in the form of metal detectors were erected at the holy site of Al Aqsa Mosque. These were aimed at protecting all prayer-goers and civilians.

This angered Palestinians. Their leadership "chose to inflame passions" within the Palestinian community by



BDS supporters protesting in Cape Town on Wednesday.

claiming that the holy site was in danger and called for a "Day of Rage".

To defuse the crisis, Israel removed the metal detectors earlier this week. Palestinian leaders saw this as their victory over Israel.

"It was this day of rage that led to the brutal murder of three Israeli civilians last Friday evening," said Swartz.

Palestinian terrorist, Omar al-Abed, 19, wielding a knife, stormed into a Jewish home and attacked a family who were celebrating the Sabbath and the birth of their new grandchild.

The SAZF and the SAJBD noted "with concern" a lukewarm statement issued by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) on this matter and expressed "extreme disappointment" that no context was provided as to what gave rise to

the current escalating conflict.

They felt strongly that the South African government should have condemned the brutal terrorism against Israeli civilians.

DIRCO's statement expressed concern over the increased political tension due to the security measures being "imposed by Israel" on worshippers.

It said: "The heightened security measures with the installation of metal detectors is viewed as a means to change the status quo of the Al Aqsa Compound..."

"The South African Government calls on both the governments of Israel and Palestine to resume final status negotiations in order for the two nations to live side-by-side, in peace, and within secure and recognised borders," said the statement.

## Parshat Shabbat Hazon Devarim

### Never alone!

Towards the end of his life, in the fifth book of the Torah - Deuteronomy - Moshe re-tells the story of the Jewish People's journey in the desert. He recalls the time when he appointed new leaders, heads of tribes, to assist him in leading the people.

"How can I alone carry your contentiousness, your burdens and your quarrels?" he said.

The Torah here uses the word "Eicha" which is often translated as "how". But Eicha has another translation - woe. It is a word that expresses upset, pain and frustration.

This word is more commonly known from the Book of Lamentations that we read on the fast of Tisha B'Av, which we will observe this coming week. "Eicha Yoshva Badad; Alas - she sits in solitude!" says Prophet Jeremiah, describing the loneliness of Jerusalem following the destruction of the two Temples.

In both these sources, the verse makes reference to loneliness and solitude. Moshe felt alone when leading the Jewish People, and Jerusalem sat in solitude after the Temples lay in ruins. And in both, the

Torah use the word Eicha - alas; woe - expressing feelings of hurt and pain.

Loneliness hurts because humans were not designed to be solitary creatures. The need to interact is deeply ingrained in our genetic code, to the extent that research shows that loneliness and social isolation are harmful to our health.

The subjective feeling of loneliness increases the risk of death by 26 per cent, according to a study in the SAGE journal, Perspectives on Psychological Science. A survey of more than 2 000 Americans, conducted by the Harris Poll on behalf of the American Osteopathic Association, showed that 72 per cent of Americans experience loneliness. And for many, it's not just a once-in-a-while occurrence - one-third said they feel lonely at least once a week.

"It is not good for man to be alone," G-d told Adam in the beginning of Genesis (2:18). This brought to the creation of Eve and to the first marriage of man and woman. They were there to support one another, keep each other company and to build G-d's world together. This has

**Rabbi Yehuda Stern Sydenham Shul**



remained the purpose of marriage until today.

Aristotle is quoted to have said: "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts." This is known as "synergy" the combined power of a group of things when they are working together that is greater than the total power achieved by each working separately.

Many have argued that alone one can accomplish more. Whether it's in prayer; when studying, or when working on community or charity work. They claim that others involved will distract them rather than assist them.

But our Sages have taught us the contrary. Prayer is more powerful when we pray with others; we have more clarity when we study with a learning partner (Chavruta); and our initiatives accomplish more when we work with a team. "Two are better than one," says King Solomon in the Book of Ecclesiastes (4:9).

**HAROLD'S REMOTES**  
Est. 1977

**Keys & Key Cutting**

Remote Control Transmitters for

- ★ Alarms ★ Gates ★
- ★ Garage Doors ★

81 Hathorn Avenue Cnr Durham St, Raedene Estate (free parking)  
Tel: 082-881-3720

**Appliance Repairs on Site**

Fridges, Dishwashers,  
Washing Machines, Stoves  
Tumble Dryers & more

Call Jason  
082 401 8239 / 076 210 6532  
**FREE QUOTATIONS**

**FOR ALL YOUR SECURITY UNIFORM SOLUTIONS**

simon workwear  
corporate clothing & workwear manufacturers

011 837 0936  
info@simonworkwear.co.za  
www.simonworkwear.co.za

Prices exclude VAT and delivery. Offer valid while stocks last. Prices subject to change without prior notice. Sizes XXL and XXXL charged extra.

**VEHICLES WANTED**

Any make, any model, any condition  
Accident damaged vehicles and non-runners also wanted

Arnold Orkin 082-823-7826  
**AUTO AFRICA**

**Jewish Report**

Editor Peta Krost Mauger - editor@sajewishreport.co.za • Sub-editor Paul Maree • Senior writer Nicola Miltz • Editorial Co-ordinator Martine Bass - editorial@sajewishreport.co.za • Design and layout Bryan Maron/Design Bandits - bryan@designbandits.co.za • Proofreader Kim Hatchuel

• Reporter Anthony Katz • Advertising and Distribution Britt Landsman: 082-292-9520 - britt@sajewishreport.co.za • Small ads Lilly Harmse - admin@sajewishreport.co.za • Subscriptions Avusa Publishing (Pty) Ltd. Tel: 0860-525200 • Board of Directors Howard Sackstein (Chairman), Herby Rosenberg, Dina Diamond, Herschel Jawitz, Shaun Matisonn, Benjy Porter. Advertisements and editorial copy do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors and staff. Tel: (011) 430-1980.

**abc**  
Audit Bureau of Circulations of South Africa  
transparency you can see

**We buy and sell cars**

www.samotorcorporation.co.za

11 Republic Road, Bordeaux, Randburg Tel: (011) 326-1954

**SA MOTOR CORPORATION**

#1 IN PRE-OWNED VALUE IN PRE-OWNED VALUE

# Flying the Nazi flag 'wasn't the brightest idea'

NICOLA MILTZ

It's not every day you see a Nazi swastika hoisted on a flag pole above the walls of an ordinary Johannesburg home.

German-speaking Northcliff resident, Klaus Weber, bedecked in a soldier's uniform, raised his flag on July 15, for all to see. A couple of hours later, he reluctantly took it down.

Outraged Melville and Northcliff residents reacted to the larger than life insignia like a bull to a red flag. And Weber apparently had no idea "what all the fuss was about".

"It was only for a few hours," he snapped in frustration, following social media backlash and WhatsApp frenzy.

Refusing to comment, the crotchety former soldier appeared livid by a letter he received from the Jewish Board of Deputies asking him to remove it.

"I have done nothing wrong," he blurted in a thick German accent when the Jewish Report confronted him for comment.

"It is a free country, this is not hate speech," he insisted.

Weber, a German-soldier-supporting "living historian", belongs to a society of German military memorabilia collectors and re-enactors. He and members of his group, which meets

"I have done nothing wrong," he blurted in a thick German accent when the Jewish Report confronted him for comment.

"It is a free country, this is not hate speech," he insisted.

and not to insult anyone."

She admitted: "It wasn't the brightest of ideas," but she assured everyone "it was taken down the same day. I live there so I know. We are not hateful and disgusting people. There has just been a misunderstanding..."

There is no movie, however. Klaus and company are not movie directors. They are "re-enactors" with authentic costumes and artefacts. They have a private collection spanning "several wars and periods in history".

Weber's daughter said her family had received threats which were very "upsetting".

Her Facebook apology says: "Please except (sic) our deepest & sincerest apologies if we have offended anybody... I apologize & on behalf of my family & the parties that were involved I apologize, it will certainly not happen again..."

Honestly the intentions were pure!"

According to the spokesman of the group, Alan Surmon, they proudly belong to a "historical and educational" society called PDOK which stands for the Prussisch Deutsches Offiziers Kasino or equally befuzzling the Prussian German Officer Society.

"PDOK strives to honour and preserve the memory of those who served in German wars of independence, world wars as well as preserve the artefacts of that period,"

reads its Facebook page.

Its mission is to "bring to life" the culture, "virtues" and traditions of the German military. And they do this by public displays and exhibits at educational and community events such as air shows and arms fairs where they put on shows.

Surmon, of Alberton, himself a retired soldier in the South African Air Force and colonel in the police force, explained this week: "We are not a right-wing group. We re-enact battles and moments in history; we cover all wars and we bring history alive by wearing the uniforms and

using the flags and memorabilia of that period in time. We have 27 flags, including even an Israeli flag."

He insists they honour soldiers "of all races and all nations".

"We are non-political students of military history, pursuing our interests with a leaning towards Prussian German history."

They steadfastly believe they are "not harming anybody" and that history "cannot be swept under the carpet".

He laments that the situation has been "taken out of context" and has spiralled out of control.

"There has been a lot of unpleasantness and nastiness. At the end of the day we have not

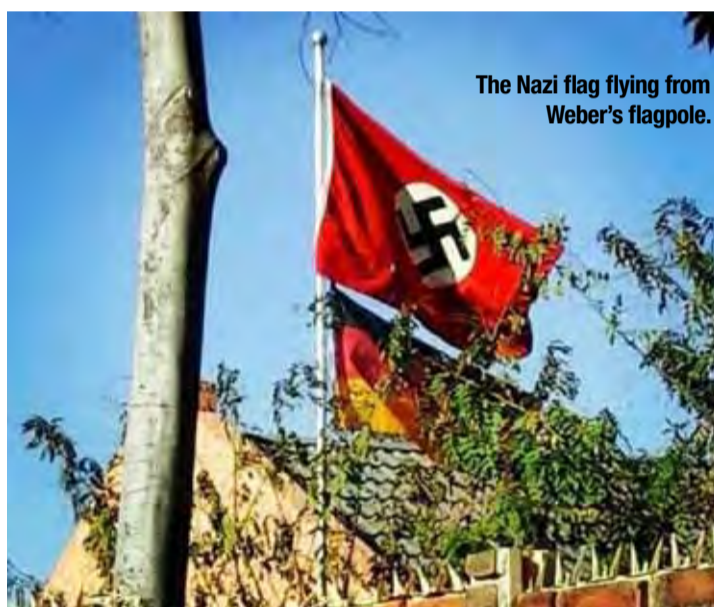
broken any rules. We live in a free society."

The Board of Deputies received several complaints from outraged community members, prompting it to send a letter to Weber.

David Saks of the Board, said this week: "It's not at all clear-cut. Displaying swastikas in the context of military history education and heritage for example in military history museums, is obviously no problem, and likewise if displayed in the context of bona fide artistic expression like when it featured in a playbill advertising a performance of cabaret a couple of years ago.

"The grey area is whether or not displaying

Continued on page 4>>



The Nazi flag flying from Weber's flagpole.

monthly, are angered by the hullabaloo. They insist it is their right to meet, dress up and re-enact scenes from history.

At the Weber home, his daughter - who would not reveal her name - told the Jewish Report the flag flying "was for a movie".

Then she added: "I have Jewish friends, we are not hateful people. It's what they do, they get together in the uniforms and discuss history."

In a Facebook apology, she explains: "It was not meant to promote any hate or to hurt anyone. That was not the intention. The flag is part of a historic film that my father is making..."

DIRECT FROM LONDON

'Relentlessly Funny' *The Jewish Chronicle*  
'A Haredi Michael McIntyre' *Haaretz*

Star of the sell out **UNFILTERED & MESHUGA FRUM** tours

# ASHLEY BLAKER

IN HIS INTERNATIONAL HIT COMEDY SHOW

STRICTLY UNORTHODOX

With a Guest Appearance by **Harry Sideropoulos**

Emperors Palace

MONDAY  
7 AUGUST  
7:45PM

Tickets from R180 @ [www.ticketpro.co.za](http://www.ticketpro.co.za)

Celebrating the Diamond Jubilee -  
**75th Year of Sydenham Shul**

In partnership with

JAWITZ

PROPERTIES

INVEST IN PROPERTY IN ISRAEL FROM R5 MILLION

Contact Herschel Jawitz in strict confidence: 082 571 1829 | [herschel@jawitz.co.za](mailto:herschel@jawitz.co.za)

ON SHOW THIS SUNDAY

**Morningside – R6.990 Million**

**Cluster.** A lesson in extraordinary living. It's difficult to assign a figure to peace of mind, exceptional finishes, recreational amenities and the culture of community. Upon entry, you are immersed in the ingenious layout of this cluster with unrivalled entertainment spaces, all open-plan, wonderfully sized bedrooms all en-suite and a staff suite, all characterized by understated sophisticated style and sublime detailing. Web Ref: 119690

Norma Robinson 082 554 7260 | Romaine Buchalter 082 685 5177

ON SHOW THIS SUNDAY

**Morningside – R1.690 Million**

**Finders Keepers. A rare find!** 2 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 Bays! Immaculate garden Apartment. Great location. Open plan living space. Modern kitchen. Sun drenched main bedroom overlooking divine little garden. 24/7 security. Complex Pool/Clubhouse. Lock up and go! Invest! Web Ref: 120415

Directions: Rivonia Road, Right into Alon left into Michele left into Denise Street

Sandra Luntz 083 679 1247 | 011 656 0888

ON SHOW THIS SUNDAY

**Glenhazel – Inviting buyers from R1.999 Million**

**Watson Road.** Unbelievable value - a 4 bedroomed family home. Great value. A real curio pie, 4 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, well fitted kitchen, 2 bathrooms (mes), pretty garden, sparkling pool, off street parking, staff accommodation, 24 Hour guard in the road. A really loved home by only 1 owner. Asking more. Web Ref: 118950

Directions: Along Northfield into Watson Road

Joel Harris 082 926 0287 | Marco 082 048 2644

ON SHOW THIS SUNDAY

**Sandringham – Inviting buyers from R2.399 Million**

**Gloucester Avenue.** Modern magical home with an executive self contained bedroom cottage. A delightful 3 bedroom with playroom offering great space and great energy. Spacious reception rooms leading out onto the patio, pool, garden and exquisite thatched gazebo. Bring the ir laws, work from home or get rental from this delightful cottage with 2 entrances. Plus, plus, plus. Asking more. Web Ref: 116231

Directions: Along James into Gloucester Avenue

Joel Harris 082 926 0287 | Marco 082 048 2644

# Israel has answers to SA water woes – but will we listen?

TALI FEINBERG

“We bath our kids in a small bucket - three-month-old Sam first, then two-year-old Charlie. We boil kettle water so we don’t have to run the water to get it hot.” That has become a way of life for Paula Janks, a legal specialist, and her family who live in Cape Town that is currently experiencing a crippling drought.

This family of four managed to have a water bill of zero for July, because they used less than the free daily allowance offered by the City of Cape Town - about 6 000 litres a month. “We use bucket water to flush the loo and wash hands in the bucket water too. We use a very short wash cycle and don’t wash linen and towels as much as we used to.

“We use our tea cups multiple times over and don’t use dishes unnecessarily, to reduce dish washing. Josh and I have very short showers over a bucket and we flush with bucket water,” explains Janks.

This is what a typical Capetonian household is meant to be doing under the current level 4B water restrictions, which were implemented on July 1, but many homes are not so strict. “Level 4B entails a ban on all use of municipal drinking-quality water for outside and non-essential purposes,” explains Councillor Errol Anstey.

This means cutting water use to less than 87 litres per day per person, and the city advises people to do this by only flushing the toilet when necessary, cutting showers to two minutes, collecting shower, bath and basin water and re-using it to flush your toilet, water the garden and wash your car; waiting for a full load before running washing

machines and dishwashers - the rinse water from some washing machines can be re-used for the next wash cycle; using a cup instead of running taps in the bathroom or kitchen when brushing teeth, shaving, drinking, etc and defrosting foods in the fridge or naturally, rather than placing it under running water.

It is now prohibited to hose down paved surfaces, water gardens, and wash vehicles with municipal drinking water. These must be washed with non-drinking water or cleaned with waterless products or dry-steam cleaning processes. Private swimming pools may not be topped up or filled with municipal drinking water.

The mayor has also declared a local disaster in terms of the Disaster Management Act. Councillor Anstey explains that this allows the city to decrease the time period to award tenders.

The city has lowered bulk reservoir levels to reduce overall system pressure, and introduced diving to excavate dam floors to attempt to use the last 10 per cent of water available.

Anstey says: “There is a water resilience advisory committee with a range of external experts, from academia to key sector organisations. They will draw on and assess examples from different cities where there have been major achievements and work done in respect to water sustainability.”

When looking to international water experts, Israel stands head and shoulders above the rest in its conservation, agricultural and desalination efforts.

“There has been visits to Israel by officials and leading Israeli companies have been in touch with the city and have submitted



The Molteno Reservoir in Cape Town.

proposals in the latest call for information,” says Anstey. Outgoing Israel Ambassador Arthur Lenk backs this up, saying that Israeli companies have continuously worked to share their experience with drought.

In June 2016, the Ambassador hosted “Water Week” in South Africa’s three major cities, bringing Israeli experts to address government and business audiences. Professor Elion Adar, a world-leading hydrologist and one of Israel’s leading researchers in water sources, use and technology, spoke.

He detailed the technologies that Israel has successfully developed and now utilises in its journey from water scarcity to water abundance. He explained how these technologies could be applied in the South African context.

A key point of Adar’s presentation was that many existing technologies can easily be adapted for rural and small farming applications, exponentially multiplying farm yields for very low expenditure.

Lenk adds that in the year that has passed since Water Week, a number of those companies have returned to South Africa, built relationships and been involved in tenders and agreements. “I predict that we will be seeing more co-operation in this area, not less,” says Lenk.

In addition, 20 - 40 South African professionals will be attending Israel’s biannual Water Conference and Exhibition in Tel Aviv in September.

Israel has demonstrated its willingness to partner with others in combating water woes. In fact, it recently signed an agreement with the Palestinian Authority and Jordan that will provide millions of cubic metres of drinking water to the Palestinians from a desalination process.

Meanwhile, Akinwunmi Ambode, executive governor of Lagos State, recently tweeted: “We’ll partner with Israel to develop water technology & environmental control strategies & find the best approach in managing our challenges.”

And when India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Israel some weeks ago, he witnessed the demonstration of sea water purification technology pioneered by Israel, at a water desalination unit on Olga Beach in Haifa.

But politics might lead South Africa to shoot itself in the foot. Following the Water Week in June 2016, Voice of the Cape wrote that “according to South African water expert Lorenzo Fioramonti, Israel is hiding its own water policies behind pseudo-technical discussions about water technology.

“SA-Israel Water Week isn’t just about finding solutions to our water crisis. It’s also a public relations campaign to combat a growing awareness in South Africa about Israel’s subjugation of its Palestinian population. It’s about putting an innovative, technological, caring face to apartheid, occupation and siege.” In the face of this kind of politicking, South Africa may miss the boat in gaining Israel’s expertise.

Israel has much to teach South Africans about adopting a new “water-wise” lifestyle. “It begins in childhood, when children are taught not to let the water run while they brush their teeth,” says Lenk.

“We have fines for companies who don’t fix leaks and incentives for those who do. We suggest starting with small steps before taking on big operations like desalination,” says Lenk. “Hopefully Israel will be able to help. It’s part of who we are.”

Janks agrees: “It’s a long-term reality and we need to adjust our habits accordingly.”

## COLLECTORS INVESTMENTS



**1st Floor, Illovo Muse, 198 Oxford Road, Illovo, Johannesburg.**

**www.collectorsinvestments.com**  
**Telephone - 011 880 9116**  
**Cell - 076 741 8801**






**OUR SPECIALIST BRUCE MCLEAN WILL BE IN DURBAN SATURDAY 22 JULY 2017 AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO OFFER FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL VALUATIONS AND PURCHASES.**  
**\*\* PLEASE CONTACT US TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT \*\***

 <b>FIVE SHILLING</b> 1947 to 1950 = R120 1951 to 1964 = R70 1959 = R1600	 <b>TWO &amp; HALF SHILLING</b> 1923 to 1950 = R60 1951 to 1964 = R35 1931 = R7000 Up to R10 000	 <b>TWO SHILLING</b> 1923 to 1950 = R40 1951 to 1964 = R30 1925 = R300 Up to R2 000 1931 = R8000 Up to R10 000
 <b>ONE SHILLING</b> 1923 to 1964 = R15 1931 = R500 Up to R3000 1939 = R500 Up to R30 000 1949 = R400 Up to R4000	 <b>60</b> 1923 to 1964 = R8 1931 = R500 Up to R3000 1939 = R10 000 Up to R30 000	 <b>30</b> 1923 to 1964 = R4 1931 = R10 000 Up to R50 000

**WE BUY COINS, BANKNOTES, MILITARY BADGES & MEDALS, GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY, AND COLLECTABLES.**

## Flying the Nazi flag...

>> Continued from page 3

swastika images for evident purposes of identifying with and showing support for the Nazi ideology, falls within the boundaries of the right to freedom of expression.”

He said that the Board did not intend taking further action.

Saks added: “Most South Africans would likely be repelled by Nazism being promoted in a public space, particularly as hard-line white supremacists associated with it so closely during the apartheid era. Jews, understandably, see it as being both an ugly insult and a veiled threat, hence they tend to react very strongly.”

Richard Freedman the director of the South African Holocaust and Genocide Foundation said: “There are lots of grey areas here. One cannot be simplistic in one’s response; one has to be nuanced and proceed with caution. It comes down to context. If it’s about glorification, celebration and profiteering, then it becomes problematic.”

Saks further explained: “In terms of South African law, everyone has the right to freedom of expression. However, this right does not extend to expression that could reasonably be construed to demonstrate, among other things, “a clear intention to... promote or propagate hatred”.

It could be plausibly argued that a public demonstration expressing support for and/or identification with Nazism, falls into this category of prohibited hate speech.

But Surmon disagrees. “If you ban one flag you have to ban all flags. Where do you draw the line? We abhor war, no one has learnt from the past; there is a certain kind of madness.”

Yes, indeed, there certainly is.

# Israeli Ambassador Arthur Lenk heads home



Mark Hyman, Ambassador Arthur Lenk and Howard Sackstein

## HOWARD SACKSTEIN

As Israeli Ambassador to South Africa Arthur Lenk heads home after four years, he leaves behind a sense of “relentless optimism” - the cornerstone of his four-year deployment in South Africa.

Before he finally boarded his El Al flight back to Jerusalem, the Jewish Report subjected him to a frank exit interview. Here are his parting thoughts.

### Are you leaving South Africa with the same degree of relentless optimism that you came with?

I am optimistic that Israel and South Africa have shared interests. I represent a country that has skills that are relevant for Africa in general, and South Africa, in particular. Whether in food security or water management, cyber technology or innovation, all of these are core priorities for South Africa and areas where Israel is a world leader.

After Prime Minister Netanyahu’s trip to East Africa last year, his recent visit to ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) and his plans for a summit in Togo, we’ve seen a real change in Africa/Israel relations.

### Why has Israel not had the same degree of success in South Africa as it is having in the rest of Africa?

One of the interesting similarities between Israel and South Africa is that we were both born out of tragedies, the Holocaust for Israel and apartheid for South Africa. One of Israel’s greatest successes was the ability of its leaders to look forward after the Holocaust; there was no choice, it had a country to build. One of the challenges for South Africa is not to forget the tragedy of apartheid, but despite it, to be able to lead forward.

You have to honour your history and celebrate your heroes, but you have lots of big challenges and Israel and the local Jewish community have a role to play. But some of the looking backwards has limited the engagement between Israel and South Africa. I hope that like Kenya and Rwanda, Israeli experience will be relevant for SA in the coming years.

### The ANC policy document speaks of competing forces on the African continent, singling out Israel and Morocco, and how this has led to a decrease in ANC and South African influence in the continent and the world.

This is not a competition - a dialogue isn’t winner takes all. In international relations there is room for everyone.

Some of the things we have been offering to the rest of Africa, we have offered to South Africa too.

Last year, rather than having our National Day we had Israel/South Africa Water Week. We brought the best water experts in the world to South Africa. That was a clear message from the government of Israel saying - we want to share our experience with you too. Both South Africa and Israel would benefit from more engagement.

### What has happened to trade between Israel and South Africa during the four years of your tenure in South Africa?

Israeli exports to SA have increased every year and unfortunately South African exports to Israel have dropped. There are many reasons for this, but the main reason is that we are trying.

### Does South Africa not have enough to offer Israel?

We are buying less coal from South Africa as Israel has transitioned to clean energy and natural gas. But if you don’t have trade promotions, if you don’t show Israelis what you have, we don’t buy. The rest of the world is coming to Israel to sell to us. We just had the Indian Prime Minister and the Rwandan President in Israel. The rest of the world is engaging more and more with Israel.

But if you don’t try, then trade drops. If you want radical economic transformation, you need more exports, and if you don’t try, then South Africa loses out.

We have had eight or nine agricultural seminars around the country. We did it because people came. The Israeli brand is very successful. It is so impressive to see how many Israeli companies are doing business in South Africa in the telecoms, health, education and security sectors.

When the SA government doesn’t prioritise opportunities and help for small and medium sized businesses, then those opportunities go to China or India or the Americans and Europeans. Israeli companies are not sitting around waiting for South Africa.

### During your time here, the Director General of your Foreign Ministry came to South Africa?

In March 2016, our Director General came to SA and they signed an agreement of a work plan emphasising national priority areas such as water, agriculture, trade, science and technology. On a business-to-business trade level, there are no problems. Just last week a big Israeli company opened offices in SA in the area of cyber security.

Continued on page 8>>

Beautiful Oldie World Charm prevails throughout this home. Wooden floors, wood panels and cottage pane windows.  
Yolande 083 381 8690 / Jeanette 082 852 6910

This spacious duplex townhouse boasts a luxurious secure lifestyle, elegant, open plan reception rooms open onto covered patio.  
Yolande 083 381 8690 / Jeanette 082 852 6910

Tucked behind high walls, this unexpected delightful renovated family home will surprise and enchant you.  
Yolande 083 381 8690 / Jeanette 082 852 6910

We are Bedfordview

bedfordview@pamgolding.co.za / 011 455 6666

## South African Jewish Report

# We will never 'get over it'!

When our intrepid journalist, Nicola Miltz, investigated the Northcliff swastika flag flying, she eventually spoke to a man who told her to "get over it". He was referring to our reaction to a Nazi flag flying in suburban Johannesburg.

He then went on to tell her he even had "Jewish relatives". As if that explained it all. It is a bit like "some of my best friends are black, so how can I be racist?" I guess he thought that by saying that, it meant he understood the implications to Jewish people of a Nazi flag.

There is nothing he could actually say that could take away the sting of "get over it!" How do you get over six million people being put to death?

The point is that we will never "get over it" and allow people to flagrantly wave the Nazi flag or the Holocaust in our faces without stopping it. We have to - lest it happens again.

As Jews, we practise "forgiving, but not forgetting". I am not sure we always get it right, which is why I believe we keep practising it.

To me, this attitude makes sense, because forgiveness is not about letting the Nazis or other racists off the hook. No, it is about learning to heal ourselves and let go of the anger and hatred that we feel or felt towards the perpetrators. It is about letting the festering sore of hatred - which would otherwise make us all ill because of the enormity of the crimes - disperse and go.

But as we let it go, we don't "get over it", letting others perpetrate those same crimes, or putting the memory of the Holocaust behind us.

In fact, in most big cities around the world, we have Holocaust centres that we use to raise awareness of the evils of the Holocaust and other genocide. These centres - much like our own Holocaust and Genocide Centres in Parktown, Durban and Cape Town - serve as constant reminders and memorials to the six million Jews who were killed in the Holocaust.

These centres also raise awareness of other prejudices, racism, xenophobia, homophobia and teaching about the dangers of allowing such behaviour to go unchecked.

I am reminded of a perfect analogy between Israel and South Africa that our outgoing Israeli Ambassador Arthur Lenk - a wise and astute diplomat - said in the interview with Howard Sackstein that we published in this edition.

He said that both countries are born out of tragedy, the Holocaust for Israel and apartheid for South Africa. He maintains that one of Israel's greatest successes was being able to look forward and build a country after the Holocaust. He spoke of having to honour your history, celebrate your heroes without limiting your engagement by looking backwards...

As Jews we do our best, but in South Africa, it seems that forgiveness for the racism of apartheid is not an easy feat. It takes the letting go of racism and an opening of communication on what people experienced, to get started on that track.

Those affected by apartheid will never "get over it" - and they have every right not to. But to start forgiving, we need to step past the engendering of racial hatred. This isn't happening as it needs to, thanks partly to organisations and people like the Gupta's former PR company, Bell Pottinger, who stoked racial hatred to cover the corrupt Gupta tracks.

Amazingly, they used an old Nazi trick called "setting up the strawman". The strawman they set up was so-called "white monopoly capital" and while public attention was on this, the Guptas and their high-powered cronies could carry on doing their dastardly deeds in the background.

Racial hatred must never triumph again. By not getting over it, I hope we will ensure it is never allowed to happen again - to us or any other group.

Shabbat Shalom!

**Peta Krost Maunder**  
Editor



## Opinion and Analysis

# Dateline: Middle East

### With each flare-up, hope of peace diminishes

PAULA SLIER

It has been days and nights of violent clashes in Jerusalem and across the West Bank. And it follows a clear pattern.

Come 19:30, my camerawoman and I take up our positions. We can choose to stand among the film crews, slightly off to the right of the Israeli police who remain poker-faced with rifles hanging from their shoulders.

The police are hugely outnumbered as they survey the crowd from behind metal barriers in front of one of the roads leading to Al Aqsa Mosque. Or we can stand opposite them; separated by a road on which thousands of Muslim worshippers kneel to pray. If we choose the latter, when the tear gas starts we will be in direct line of fire and more exposed, but the pictures will be better...

The pattern continues. The fourth prayer of the day finishes and water bottles, zaatar pita bread, chocolate croissants and fruit juices are handed out for free amid a relaxed air of mingling. Occasionally someone shouts from a loudspeaker, quoting the Koran and encouraging the crowd to respond.

I chat with some of the other journalists; the question is always the same - will there be violence tonight and from which direction will it come?

Normally a busy intersection leading to the Old City, one can now only access Lion's Gate on foot. All traffic has been re-routed and the three roads leading here each end in an Israeli police barricade. As the night wears on, the crowd continues to surge as more people arrive for the fifth and last prayer.

By the time it's 21:30, one cannot move. Small carpets have been laid out on the streets and thousands of worshippers recite in unison after loudspeakers. A woman praying next to me is crying.

At the time of writing, the Israeli Security Cabinet just voted to remove metal detectors and cameras from the Temple Mount. The arithmetic is simple enough. Jerusalem introduced them after two Israeli security officers were killed guarding one of the entrances to the mosque.

On paper, it makes sense as a way to prevent similar attacks from happening in future. Such security measures are already in place at the Western Wall and in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

But they sparked outrage in the Arab world amid fears Israel was trying to undermine Jordanian administration of the site and impose its own sovereignty. Violent protests ensued - a reminder that what might seem logical from a security point of view, might not always be when viewed from a wider strategic perspective.

This is a case in point. Countries in the region that don't see Israel as their enemy still see instability in Jerusalem as closely tied to their own citizens who care deeply about what happens at the Temple Mount.

And for this reason, no doubt, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu who does not want to be seen as backing

down to Palestinian demands to remove the additional security measures, seemingly decided to do so.

But it's not just Israeli-Arab tensions that flared up this past week. Hamas, encouraged by Iran, has a vested interest in what goes on in Jerusalem and has been urging Palestinians to take to the streets against the Zionists. The Al Aqsa protests feed the power struggle between Hamas and rival Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah faction.

Violent protests ensued - a reminder that what might seem logical from a security point of view, might not always be when viewed from a wider strategic perspective.

But Abbas is not going anywhere soon and despite an initial phone call with Netanyahu that I wrote about last week and which seemed promising at the time, Abbas subsequently cut off all ties with Jerusalem.

Hamas criticised the move as meaningless but it is obviously Abbas' way of gaining more leverage on the Palestinian and Arab street.

Sadly, there is the human cost. The violent protests might soon fade away, but they have left (at date of writing) three Israelis murdered at their Shabbat dinner table by a 19-year-old Palestinian who felt "there is no life after what is seen in Al-Aqsa" and three Palestinian protesters killed by Israeli police.

I met the father of 18-year-old Mohammad Lafi who died after being shot in the chest by live Israeli rounds. Mahmoud said his second-eldest child seldom went to demonstrations but, "You know kids. Israel crossed a red line and they listen to their preachers, unite around each other and go and protest." His son, Mohammad, was planning to start his university studies next year.

In the Halamish settlement where Yosef Salomon and his two adult children were killed at their Shabbat dinner last Friday, the murder scene is closed off by red police tape. Memorial candles burn on a small plastic table in the driveway.

Miri Ovadia, a neighbour, admits the community is traumatised. Her brother was home for the weekend from the army and on hearing the family's screams, grabbed his gun and managed to shoot the Palestinian intruder.

She is still reeling from shock. And that is the sad reality - with each new flare-up of violence, the cost to both sides increases, and more often than not, so diminishes any real hope of peace.

• Paula Slier is the Middle East Bureau Chief of RT, the founder and CEO of NewshoundMedia and the inaugural winner of the Eurocar Woman in Leadership Award of the Absa Jewish Achiever Awards.



Israeli security forces stand by as Palestinian Muslim worshippers pray outside Lions' Gate, near a main entrance to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's Old City, on July 24, 2017.

# The Israel-Africa tectonic plates are shifting quickly



Ambassador Paul Hirschson meeting with president of Senegal, Macky Sall.

## AMBASSADOR PAUL HIRSCHSON

Tectonic plates continue to shift, including the East Africa Rift of which the Jordan Rift Valley is a part. At current rates, less than one centimetre per year, it will take thousands of years but eventually Israel will have separated from the Arabian Peninsula as Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Syria move north while Israel, together with Africa, moves south. Israel will be a part of Africa and a member of the African Union.

Some 4 000 years ago the Jews had their first engagement with Africa, as slaves in Egypt. Today Israel and Egypt are strategic partners, both in security and economically.

Over 300 000 Egyptians work in joint ventures between Israeli and Egyptian businesspeople, supporting some four million Egyptians and many thousands of Israelis.

Our second engagement with Africa began about 2 500 years ago as one part of the Jewish people escaped the Babylonian conquest of our state and took refuge in Ethiopia where we lived until modern times.

A number of Jews still live in Ethiopia although most have returned to Israel since its re-establishment as a modern nation-state.

The third major engagement between the Jews and Africa started a little more than 500 years ago. Having lived in Europe for centuries, Jews again found themselves under dire threat and sought a new exile from that exile.

On every ship leaving Europe, as the European colonial era began, there were Jews seeking to leave Europe. Many found their way to Africa, starting in Cape Verde and progressing down the coast of West Africa and beyond.

Now is the fourth major engagement of the Jews with Africa, in the form of flourishing ties between the modern State of Israel and countries across Africa.

Israel's relationships in Africa have seen ups and downs. An initial romance, as Israel invested heavily in development aid and commercial relations. Israelis went in large numbers to African countries as they secured independence and were very active in training, significantly in the agriculture sector, and in many large-scale construction projects.

The first sign of change appeared following the 1967 Six Day War when Guinea broke relations with Israel. No other country did so, but with hindsight we can see that early sign.

Following the 1973 Yom Kippur War, at the request of Egypt the Organisation of African Unity (predecessor to the African Union), at a meeting in Gambia, called on African countries to break relations with Israel. Almost all did.

A few short years later, Egypt began peace negotiations with Israel, culminating in the Israel-Egypt peace accords, leaving African countries happy for the peace accords and stunned at being sidelined as Israel had already turned its attention elsewhere.

Most African countries quickly re-established relations with Israel, but as events would have it, with Israel having established embassies elsewhere

and limited budgets, Israel hasn't reopened the same number of embassies in Africa (there had been 30; today there are 11).

In July 2016, Guinea and Israel re-established diplomatic relations, highlighting the positive direction Israel's relations across Africa is headed. In Sub-Saharan Africa, there remain barely a handful of countries yet to re-establish relations with Israel.

Days before Israel and Guinea re-established relations, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu became the first Israeli prime minister in many years to visit Africa. He visited Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and Ethiopia.

Pictures from a meeting between Netanyahu with the presidents of those four countries, as well as the presidents of Tanzania and South Sudan and Zambia's foreign minister, made headlines across the globe.

Analysts and commentators across Africa and throughout the world, understood and announced: Israel is a significant player in Africa and Africa is important to Israel.

In June 2017 Israel again stunned the diplomatic world with Prime Minister Netanyahu becoming the only non-African head of state ever invited to address an ECOWAS summit, the 15-state association of West African countries.

In addition to being the keynote speaker, Prime Minister Netanyahu held bilateral meetings with the presidents of 10 of the 15 member states (three others didn't attend the summit, two of whom were receiving medical treatment in Europe at the time; time constraints prevented meeting the final two, one of which Netanyahu met its prime minister in Jerusalem days beforehand).

South Africa remains Israel's number one business partner in Africa, although Egypt is fast challenging South Africa's dominance. Today, beyond those two countries, thousands of Israeli businesspeople and their families have moved to Africa to further nurture investments, joint ventures and other business relationships.

Most are found in Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and Ghana, with hundreds of families in each. There are growing numbers of Israelis in Rwanda, Uganda, Sierra Leone and many other countries.

In Senegal one farm alone has deployed 25 000 kilometres of Israeli drip irrigation infrastructure (yes, you read that correct: 25 million metres; 100 million hi-tech drippers, every 25 centimetres).

Water infrastructure projects are fast competing with agricultural projects as Israel's main economic activity in Africa. An Israel company recently signed a memorandum of understanding with ECOWAS to invest \$1 billion in solar energy technology across West Africa.

In modern times, the political tectonic plates are moving rapidly and Israel's partnerships across Africa are flourishing. There remains much work to be done.

• Paul Hirschson is Israel's ambassador to six West African countries including Senegal where the embassy is located. You can follow him on Twitter: @paulhirschson

**SUNDAY 6 AUGUST 2017**  
**JOIN US FOR THE FULL**  
**LIMMUD EXPERIENCE**  
**INDABA HOTEL, FOURWAYS**

UP TO 10 CHOICES PER HOUR

## BIG CONVERSATIONS

FIFTY YEARS AFTER THE SIX DAY WAR,  
 FUTURE OF SOUTH AFRICAN JEWRY,  
 RADICAL ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION,  
 A JEWISH RESPONSE TO TRUMP, GETT REFUSAL,  
 THE TARNISHED RAINBOW: SOUTH AFRICA IN 2017



## CREATIVE SELF

POTTERY, POETRY, YOGA, MUSIC MEDITATION,  
 SONG, PHOTOGRAPHY, GEFILTE FISH, YIDDISH,  
 BROADWAY, LEONARD COHEN, BIODANZA,  
 STORYTELLING & FILM



## LUNCH

GARY FRIEDMAN CATERED OUTDOOR LUNCH  
 IN THE AUGUST SUN



## TEENS

PROGRAMME INCLUDES  
 LIMMUD SHARK TANK WITH GIL OVED,  
 MEDICAL ETHICS AND JUDAISM, TECHNOLOGY  
 AND JEWISH EDUCATION, INEQUALITY

## YOUTH

CRECHE FOR BABIES AND TODDLERS (0-3)  
 FULL YOUNG LIMMUD PROGRAMME  
 AND CHILD CARE (4-12)

Register at [www.limmud.org.za](http://www.limmud.org.za)  
 email [conference@limmud.org.za](mailto:conference@limmud.org.za)  
 call 0834519176

**LIMMUD**  
 JOHANNESBURG

# Chief Rabbi takes on violence against women and children

SUZANNE BELLING

Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein has taken on the call to stop violence against women and children head on. He is forming the Abuse Review Board to deal with violence and abuse against women and children in our community.

He announced this at the National Religious Leaders' Council's (NRLC) launch of a campaign against violence in Fourways on Tuesday. The religious leaders' campaign to raise awareness about the violence, was in reaction to the spate of killings of women and children in South

Africa this year.

While the Chief Rabbi - as a member of the NRLC - is involved in the awareness campaign, he is determined to take this further within the Jewish community to stamp out abuse.

He said the review board would deal with "any situation of abuse, directed at women and children, or of any human being, which has taken place and been reported to the appropriate communal institutions.

"If those institutions are not taking it seriously enough and people are feeling unheard, the complaints can be brought to the Abuse Review Board."

Rabbi Goldstein already has a board in place. They are: Advocate Liza Segal (chairman); psychologist Brenda Lasersohn; Dr Efrat Barnes, medical director of the Teddy Bear Clinic; Rabbi Gidon Fox and Rabbi Anton Klein.

"Because no one in our community is immune from this problem, we all have to take personal responsibility," the Chief Rabbi said.

In terms of the NRLC campaign, he says, it is vital to create awareness. "The words that we use create the world in which we live," he said at the launch that was attended by the Minister in the Presidency Responsible for Women Susan Shabangu and MEC Nandi Mayathula-Khoza, of the Department of Social Development in Gauteng.

"It is so important for us that the words we use, the words that are spoken around dinner tables, across our country, between parents and children, in classrooms, and at the workplace, are infused with dignity, with care and with kindness.

"The way that men speak about women sends a very powerful message to their sons about how to treat a woman..."

"This is a campaign about speaking in the right way. It's a campaign to affect the vocabulary, the language, the narrative in our country, to ensure that we can bring a spirit of kindness and dignity into the way that we engage with one another - and, in particular that we, as a society, engage with women and children. If we speak in the right way, then that will prevent the terrible violence that we are seeing.

"So, words are very important, but they also have to be matched by actions."

Pastor Ray McCauley, senior pastor of the Rhema Bible Church, addressing the media at the launch, said gender-based violence was a crime of power.

He spoke of this crime as being "one that seeks to uphold patriarchal laws and control the female body in the framework of historically unequal power structures between men and women. It is a problem that belongs to society and is therefore a crime by society."

Pastor McCauley revealed shocking statistics: According to a 2016 survey in South Africa, one in every five women older than 18 had experienced physical violence. Four in 10 divorced or separated women had reported physical violence and one in three young South Africans had had some form of sexual abuse in their lives.



Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein at the launch.

"We must not only challenge societal attitudes of patriarchy and chauvinism, but also the effectiveness of the government programmes.

"It is because of these types of stats and the violence against women and children that we, as religious leaders, thought to unite with other stakeholders to speak with a united voice..."

He said the campaign launch had been timed for the week preceding Women's Month.

The action plan of the campaign was to "roll it out" until the 16 days of activism in December and for each representative to do so during his/her spheres of influence to make the maximum impact.

The organisers will work together with government, the SAPS, faith-based organisations, civil society, sports and business people. There will also be a social media strategy to create "Thursdays in Black" - wearing black as a symbol of strength and courage in solidarity with victims and survivors in a campaign of advocacy against all forms of sexual and gender-based violence.

The faiths represented at the launch were Christian, Jewish, Hindu and Muslim.

## Hearing Aid Labs

NORWOOD MALL  
NORWOOD (011) 483 1795

norwood.hearingaidlabs@gmail.com

**FREE  
HEARING  
SCREEN TEST**

\*HEARING TESTS \*SERVICING & REPAIRS  
\*PROGRAMMING \*ALL MEDICAL AIDS ACCEPTED

## The SA Jewish Report is looking to fill the newly-created position of CEO

The role of the CEO will be to future-proof the SA Jewish Report and transform it for the modern era of digital and social media publishing

The CEO will be responsible for:

- Digital strategy
- Social media strategy
- IT strategy
- Print and distribution strategy
- Company ops and office management
- Staff development and human resources
- Financial management, reporting and stakeholder management
- Operationalising the Jewish Achiever Awards and Fundraising
- The development of a high-performance sales team



Please e-mail  
admin@sajewishreport.co.za  
for a full copy of the job  
description or to send your CV

Join  
us in  
creating  
a world-  
class  
Jewish  
media  
house

## Arthur Lenk heads home

>> Continued from page 5

### What advice can you give the SA Jewish community?

I fear in recent years, there has been a pulling back when there is a need to engage, economically and politically. SA was a blessing for Jews from Eastern Europe, it offered opportunity. You guys are the living bridge between SA and Israel, the more you are part of SA, the more opportunity there is for you and for us.

### What do you wish had been different during your time here?

One of the challenges of SA is that there is a lot of background noise, whether it's the anti-Israel lobby or the very vibrant politics of SA. Sometimes people get scared of the noise, but the vast majority of South Africans are not interested in the noise at all. You just need to ignore the noise.

In a survey of black South Africans conducted last year, most South Africans have never heard of the conflict between Israel and its neighbours. Of those who have, the majority of people want engagement and dialogue and want to build SA. The challenge is getting past the noise and relentless optimism is the answer to that.

### We seem to have a major increase in South Africans going to live in Israel

As an Israeli going back to Israel, I think that's great. Israel is an amazing place to live. There is no sacrifice to go live there. One of the challenges we have in the Israeli foreign service is that most diplomats and their spouses are happy at home and they don't want to go off to Africa or South America. They are very happy in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ra'nana, because life there is great and the fact that more and more South Africans are seeing it, well that's great too.

### What is next for the Lenks?

The five Lenks will be together again in Israel. We have three daughters in Israel, two at university and one about to go into the army next year. Ruth, my wife, will teach art at the international school near Netanya and I'm going to sit on the beach next month

With that, Arthur Lenk packed his bag of relentless optimism and headed for the exit sign. As the movers shipped their boxes, they left behind a belief that it would be in South Africa's strategic national interest to have warmer relations between the two countries.



# These are some of the nominees for the Absa Jewish Achiever Awards 2017

## for the Jewish Report Art, Sport, Science & Culture Award



Alon Skuy



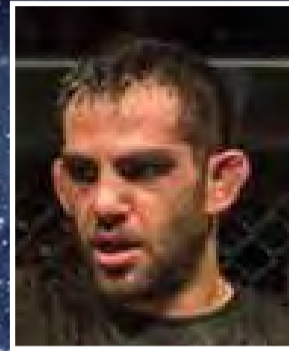
Anthony Orelowitz



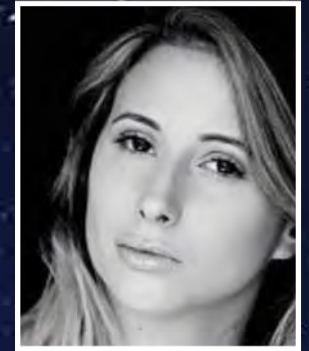
Anthony Segal



Benji Liebmann



Brendon Katz



Courtney Cloud Bernstein



Charles Feldman



Bryan Schimmel



David Alexander



Dr Shane Dorfman



Evelyn Green



Helen Heldenmuth



Hillaine Barbara Sachs



Ian Ash



Joel Block



Jonathan Liebesman



Lance Gewer



Prof Heather Zar



Richard Poplak



Rodney Berman



Shaun Duvet



Stephen Segerman



Theodore Yach



Trevor Coleman



Prof David Bloch

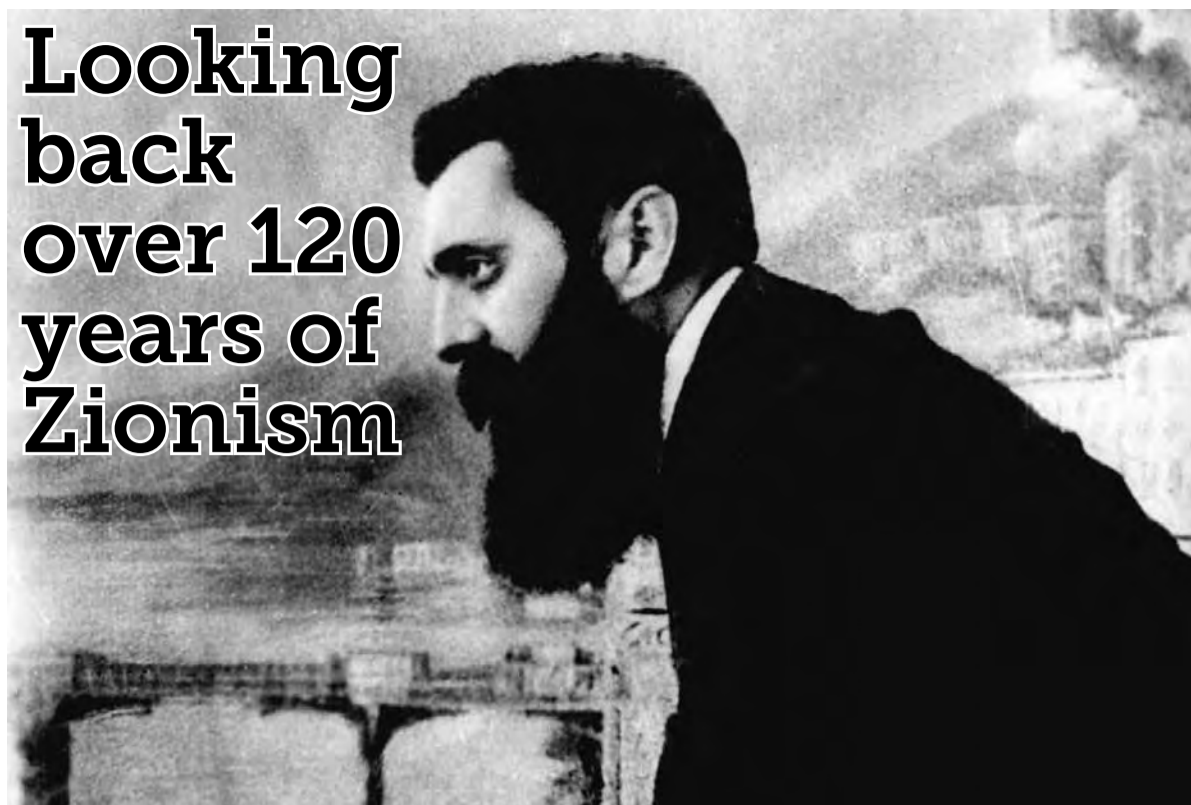


To find out who wins, please book a table for the  
**Absa Jewish Achiever Awards Gala Banquet**  
 13 August 2017 • [rsvp@sajewishreport.co.za](mailto:rsvp@sajewishreport.co.za)

Tables R36 000 (plus VAT) Seats R4 000 (plus VAT)

Please note that the nominees listed above have been nominated by members of the public. The publishing of names in no way constitutes acceptance of the nomination by the individual or entity. Please also note that nominations for this category are reviewed by the Board of the South African Jewish Report, who are responsible for selecting the winner based on various criteria. Only the winner is notified. All nominees in the business categories are notified of their nominations. Nominations for all business awards are reviewed by various judging panels, who interview each nominee and assess submissions in order to select the winners.

# Looking back over 120 years of Zionism



As we celebrate 120 years of Zionism this month, Milton Shain takes us through the origins, successes and unfinished business that is Zionism.

Since the Six Day War the term Zionism has been mangled and abused and increasingly employed as a term of opprobrium. Yet its meaning is simple: the national liberation of the Jewish people in their historic homeland.

Within that framework debates have raged - a socialist utopia; a negation of the Diaspora; a bi-national state; both sides of the Jordan; post-Zionism and so forth. But the origins of Zionism as a movement are now quite clear. Nineteenth century emancipation had failed the Jews.

This was evident at the time Theodor Herzl convened the First World Zionist conference in Basel 120 years ago.

By then medieval religious hatreds - rooted in Christianity - had mutated into secular forms of anti-Semitism.

Blood libels in central Europe, pogroms in Russia, the Dreyfus Affair in France, and race baiting in Germany and Austria, demonstrated Jewish vulnerability. Burgeoning nationalism, social Darwinism and scientific racism, reinforced the notion that Jews were immutably alien and rootless: a people apart.

Opponents of the Zionist idea believed atavistic hatreds would dissipate. Zionists, on the other hand, envisaged survival in terms of "auto-emancipation", as Leo Pinsker put it.

Importantly, they wished to normalise the Jewish condition. Theirs was not a religious response, but rather a product of secularisation in the 19th century. Religious Jews for the most part abhorred the movement and only gradually came on board.

From the start, Arabs resented Jewish resettlement in Palestine, then under the Ottomans. Most refused to recognise the 1917 Balfour Declaration that promised Jews a National Home within British Mandate Palestine, and subsequently Arab leaders failed to reach a modus vivendi with their Zionist counterparts.

For Europe's Jews, however, options were narrowing. Massacres in the Ukraine and the rise of Nazism threatened Jews, while exclusionary policies adopted by the "New World" - (including South Africa) foreclosed emigration possibilities. Zionist ideologues had read the intellectual and political mood correctly.

In the wake of the Second World War and the destruction of European Jewry, a United Nations Special Commission on Palestine, recommended partition. During the UN vote in November 1947, those in favour knew they were supporting the creation of a Jewish state alongside an Arab/Palestinian state. It was both a reasonable and moral option.

While the Holocaust may have partly motivated some voting members, the idea of partition predated the mass killing of Europe's Jews. It complied, moreover, with regnant notions of national self-determination. And Jews were considered a people in the national sense.

Zionist leaders accepted the UN decision. Today it is often forgotten that the 1948 Israeli Declaration of Independence did not determine that Israel was to be a Jewish state, but rather that the newly-created Jewish State was to be called Israel.

Hebrew would be the official language and the state's symbols and public life Jewish in character.

Notwithstanding successive wars and a huge influx of poor - mainly Mizrachi - immigrants, as well as being in a festering if not explosive neighbourhood which for the most part has refused to recognise the Jewish State, Israel has survived and flourished.

Even Israel's critics - those who frame the conflict between Jews and Arabs/Palestinians within the colonial settler paradigm, making much of the "second-class" status of Arab Israelis, or who question the possibility of a "Jewish State" being democratic - ought to acknowledge that Israel compares favourably with the "family of nations".

To be sure, the Jewish character of Israel does not contradict the norms of democratic governance. A nation's symbols need not be neutral as evident in the flags of many countries that bear the sign of the cross or the crescent. Furthermore, the adoption of a state religion is no exception. After all, apart from Lebanon, all Arab countries, have adopted Islam as a state religion.

Nor is the contentious "Law of Return" - seen by Israel's critics as privileging Jews - unique. Many countries have similar legislation which favours national diasporas.

But only Israel is assailed in this regard.

When it comes to the treatment of its minority Arab population (within the Green Line), Israel is not perfect; but much has been corrected. Importantly the treatment of Arab Israelis compares favourably with the treatment of minorities in other liberal democracies.

States are never neutral. Turkey, for example, will always be identified with the Turkish language, its culture and its national identity. Put simply, Israel is not exceptional. Her less than perfect treatment of Israeli Arabs is certainly comparable to the treatment of minorities in many other respected countries.

Few know, for example, that Israel has a lower infant mortality rate among its minorities than France, Britain and other European countries.

The bottom line is that Israel's Declaration of Independence declares all its citizens equal, without distinction of race. Activists (of whom there are many in Israel) highlight shortcomings and abuses.

Similar shortcomings and ambiguities exist in many other democracies. Israel is not alone. But the excoriation of Israel in world forums is unique.

Perhaps a withdrawal from the territories occupied in the Six Day War will lower the temperature. This is far from certain. The choices for Israel are not easy. But its vibrant democracy ensures dynamic engagement on all issues, including theocratic overreach, the gap between rich and poor, and even post-Zionism as an ideology. The Zionist forefathers would have expected nothing less.

• Milton Shain is Emeritus Professor in the Department of Historical Studies and a former director of the Isaac and Jessie Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Cape Town.

## Toughest part of the Jewish Achiever Awards – the judging

NICOLA MILTZ

Competition reached fever pitch at the Absa Jewish Achiever Award judging day on Sunday. This year, the Jewish Report received more than 400 nominees, covering the nine categories of achievers. And the competition was stiff!

The business-related judging took place at the Absa Campus in Sandton on Sunday from 08:00 and lasted well into the night, with some awards being debated for more than three hours before consensus was reached.

There were four separate panels of judging.

The first panel - who met earlier in the process - consisted of the Board and the editor of the SA Jewish Report. They judged the Lifetime Achievement Award in honour of Helen Suzman, the Humanitarian Award in honour of the late Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris and the Community Service Award and the Arts, Sports, Science and Culture Award.

They debated each candidate's motivation and fought and argued until finally deciding on a winner in each of these categories.

On Sunday, the debates were lively as the different independent judges - themselves high fliers in business - backed different candidates and motivated for their candidate to win.

For the Creative Counsel Young Jewish Entrepreneurs Award, the judges included Creative Counsel co-founder Gil Oved and former head of Vodacom International, Romeo Kumalo - both of whom are Sharks on the local TV show Shark Tank - and founder and former CEO of Bidvest, Brian Joffe.

In the Europcar Jewish Women in Leadership Award, fellow Shark, Dawn Nathan-Jones, (former Europcar CEO) was joined by celebrity psychologist Dr D (Dorianne Weil), head of human resources at Imperial Holdings Taryn Marcus, Martin Lydall (commercial director of Europcar), and travel maven Johanna Mukoki, one of South Africa's most successful entrepreneurs of the last decade.

Nine judges were involved in judging the three Absa business categories for the Entrepreneur, Listed Company and Unlisted Company. Two new judges joined the judging panel this year, including Dionne Ellerine of Ellerine Brothers, who won the Unlisted Company award last year and Claudia Swartzberg, CEO of Top Dog Education, who won the Young Jewish Entrepreneur Award two years ago.

Other judges included Banie Claasen, Managing Executive Gauteng South Retail and Business Banking Absa, and Mark Still, Vice-Chairman Coverage Absa, acclaimed entrepreneur Steven Blend, former Johannesburg Stock Exchange executive Geoff Rothschild, corporate governance expert Dr Len Konar, and property mogul and corporate lawyer Sharon Wapnick.

The entire judging process took place under the watchful eye of Garron Chaitowitz, auditor of Grant Thornton.

In the five business awards, each of the candidates was contacted and they were asked if they were willing to stand. Those who were willing were asked to submit CVs, answer questions and provide documentation. They then appeared before the judging panel where they were grilled by different judges on Sunday.

For four weeks running up to the announcement of the winners, the SA Jewish Report is releasing adverts that show some of the candidates considered in each of the non-business categories.

All winners will be announced at the gala banquet at Vodaworld on Sunday August 13.



Romeo Kumalo and Gil Oved.



SOUTH  
AFRICAN  
ZIONIST  
FEDERATION



# THE TIMES OF ISRAEL

## It's not about metal detectors, but sovereignty



Metal detectors on Temple Mount

DOV LIEBER

The Israeli government missed the point of Palestinian anger directed at metal detectors placed at entrances to the Temple Mount and, having misdiagnosed the situation, made a decision that failed to resolve the crisis and has only made it worse.

At least, that's what many of the Muslim protesters in the streets of Jerusalem's Old City have been saying since the metal detectors were removed early Tuesday morning.

Israel thought it was making a concession by removing the detectors, which were installed after three Arab Israelis carried out a shooting attack at the Temple Mount, killing two policemen with weapons they had smuggled into Al Aqsa Mosque.

Instead, the Security Cabinet decided advanced monitoring equipment would eventually take their place. This would make physical access for Muslim worshippers to the mosque easier and quicker, and make the area outside the holy site look less like a military checkpoint.

However, on Tuesday and Wednesday, many protesters in the Old City repeated the same line: "The smart cameras are worse." Worse, they explained, because such cameras represent a more sophisticated way of controlling the entrances to the Temple Mount.

And therein lies the real issue: The initial quarrel over metal detectors has evolved into a battle over sovereignty at what is possibly the world's most sensitive holy site.

Complicating matters for Israel is the fact that the thousands of Palestinians heading to pray in the streets of the Old City of Jerusalem every day, have no clear leader.

While the Jerusalem Waqf - a branch of the Jordanian government that administers Islamic holy sites in Jerusalem - may have initiated the boycott of the Temple Mount in protest at the metal detectors, the situation has spiralled out of its control.

On Tuesday morning, for example, the head of the Waqf, Sheikh Azzam al-Khatib al-Tamimi, told The Times of Israel that no decision had been made about whether it would accept alternative security arrangements being put in place by Israel, including "smart cameras".

The Waqf tried to buy time by saying it would wait to make a decision until a full assessment of Israeli measures taken inside and at the entrances to the Temple Mount had been completed.

But worshippers in the streets of the Old City that morning had already made up their minds. Some thought the smart cameras had already been set up. Many said they believed these cameras would show their naked bodies, or perhaps give them

cancer. Whatever these cameras could or couldn't do, many agreed, they couldn't be tolerated.

In Ramallah, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas waited until 19:00 to announce what had already been established on the streets in Jerusalem: No cameras, and no increased police presence at the site. Either things go back to the way they were at the Temple Mount before last Friday, or, Abbas said, he would continue to freeze contacts with Israel, including security co-ordination.

The protesters in Jerusalem are fond of saying that they are neither Fatah (Abbas's party) nor rival party Hamas. They are, rather, they say, "the street, the people, the Jerusalemites".

The Waqf, many have said this week, is no longer pulling the strings. It's now the street controlling the Waqf.

As one worshipper at night-time prayers outside the Mount put it on Tuesday: "Do we have a leader? Yes. The unified voice of the people."

Because this is a clash over sacred space, the protests are more religious than nationalist in nature. Many Palestinians have become tired of politics, but their religion and its symbols remain a force of mass mobilisation.

Underlining this, Tuesday night saw the largest crowd of worshippers since the start of the crisis gather in the streets of the Old City and outside the Lions Gate for evening and night-time prayers.

That the current protests are literally just prayer services - at least before some of them devolve into clashes - adds to the

religious fervour.

For one whole minute during the Tuesday evening service, the crowd chanted "Oh G-d, Oh G-d" repeatedly with the fear of losing of Al Aqsa likely at the forefront of its thoughts - however improbable this seems to Israelis, and no matter how many times Israel promises it won't change the status quo at the site.

While five Palestinians died in clashes with Israeli security forces around Jerusalem on Friday and Saturday, and the Palestinian terrorist who killed three members of the Salomon family in Halamish last week Friday night cited a determination to assert Muslim sovereignty at Al Aqsa, the prayer-protests inside the Old City, just outside the Temple Mount, have been relatively peaceful.

For the most part, the worshippers come, pray and, eventually, go home. But minor clashes have broken out almost every night; small incidents, such as a single water bottle being thrown into the air, can lead to police taking action, including with the use of stun grenades, sending thousands running in every direction.

On Tuesday night, some in the crowd said this could all end if Israel fully restored conditions at the Temple Mount entrances to the July 14 status quo ante. But others believed it was too late for that now.

Mohammad Rowais, from Ras al-Amud, said goals now included "for the police to be completely removed from the site, and for religious Jews to stop going up there.

"Maybe," he added, more analytically than provocatively, "this is the beginning of a new uprising."

### POLICE TO INTERROGATE JORDANIAN EMBASSY GUARD

TIMES OF ISRAEL STAFF

Police will summon for questioning an Israeli guard who shot dead two Jordanians while allegedly trying to defend himself from a stabber in the Amman embassy compound.

During Security Cabinet meetings following last Sunday evening's incident, Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit told ministers that as a signatory to the Vienna Convention, Israel is required to investigate suspects upon their return from a host country that provided diplomatic immunity for charges against them, the report said.

While Mandelblit emphasised that the inquiry is entirely routine, the embassy guard, identified only by his first name, Ziv, will likely be investigated on suspicion of manslaughter, the report said.

The Foreign Ministry said Ziv was stabbed by 17-year-old Mohammed Jawawdeh, who was in an embassy residence installing a bedroom set on Sunday evening.

Ziv opened fire on Jawawdeh, killing him and a second man, Bashar Hamarneh, at the site, in what the ministry said was self-defence.

The incident sparked a diplomatic crisis, as Jordanian authorities demanded permission to question the guard, while Israel refused to hand him over, citing his diplomatic immunity.

The deadlock was resolved after a flurry of efforts including a visit by the head of Israel's Shin Bet General Security Agency, Nadav Argaman, to Amman on Monday, followed by a phone call between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and King Abdullah II.

Israel will pay compensation to the Hamarneh family after it completes its mourning period, Israel Radio reported on Tuesday. It wasn't immediately clear what sum Israel would pay to the family.



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu meets with Israeli Ambassador to Jordan, Einat Schlein, and security guard "Ziv".

WHAT WE DO: Promote Aliya & Travel to Israel 🇮🇱 Share Israel related information 🇮🇱 Monitoring / Response to Israel related Media 🇮🇱 Support pro-Israel organisations 🇮🇱 Increase support for Israel through outreach programmes 🇮🇱 Engage with key decision makers to communicate our narrative

The news and views expressed on these pages are not the views of the SA Jewish Report nor the SA Zionist Federation. This content originates from the Times of Israel.

## At Yad Vashem, Yazidi activists seek to learn how to record their genocide

the details'

In the summer of 1942 - as the vast majority of European Jewry was being systematically murdered by the Nazis - an Israeli named Mordechai Shenhavi was gripped by an idea. Israel must build a centre memorialising the victims of the Holocaust, wrote Shenhavi, who would go on to become the first director of Yad Vashem.

In the summer of 2017 - with the conflict in Iraq and Syria raging, thousands displaced, and 3 000 women still in IS captivity - the two Yazidi activists walked the halls of Shenhavi's Yad Vashem, initiating meetings with its staff during a trip to Israel organised by the IsraAID humanitarian aid nonprofit and a Knesset lobby on Kurdish affairs.

the bread and butter of Yad Vashem's methods.

You must highlight your religious and cultural traditions in Sinjar, the guide said, gesturing at Judaica and other artefacts from lost European Jewish communities.

"One day you will have a museum of your own," he told the Yazidi activists, and you will need to get people to sit down before cameras and get them to talk.

### 'You cannot compare atrocities'

In August 2014, two months after sweeping across Iraq's Sunni heartland, IS jihadis made a second push into an area that had been under Kurdish security control. Thousands of Yazidi



Nadia Murad, 24, a Yazidi woman who escaped Islamic State captivity, tours Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. MICKEY NOAM-ALON/ISRAAID

They were not the first Yazidi visitors to the site, according to a Yad Vashem spokesman. But they were the first who came to learn about its methods.

Elias was in Texas during the August 3, 2014, massacres that saw his brother, nephew and 50 of his friends killed by the Islamic State. By the end of that month, he had co-founded an organisation, Yazda, that began gathering oral testimonies and evidence against jihadis in the hopes of future prosecution of the terror group in international tribunals.

His personal testimony, recalling life in Sinjar before the Islamic State and the attempted annihilation of his people, is 13.5 hours long, he said.

The project is a race against time, Elias said, because "the memory fades and they forget the details of what happened exactly.

"In the first year, people were very focused and they could tell us exactly what happened to them," he said, adding that some victims were able to name their IS perpetrators. "They tend to forget about the details and that's why it's critical for Yazda and supporters of this project... to create this archive."

Touring the museum, the Yad Vashem guide emphasized the incorporation of video testimonials juxtaposed among the artefacts as

men were massacred when the jihadis attacked the town of Sinjar and thousands of women and girls were kidnapped and enslaved. Some 45 mass graves have since been unearthed in the region.

Yazidi community leaders say up to 3 000 Yazidi women may still be in the hands of the jihadis, across the "caliphate" they proclaimed more than two years ago over parts of Iraq and Syria.

Yazidi boys were forcibly taken by the IS to join its ranks and toddlers were sold into slavery, according to the activists. Five different militias are currently battling over the region and hundreds of thousands of Yazidis are displaced across Iraq and Turkey, the activists said. Several thousand have emigrated to Germany, Canada and Australia.

The United Nations designated the atrocities a genocide. The legislature of the US, UK, Canada, France, Scotland, have also approved formal recognition; Murad was in the Knesset on Monday to lobby Israel's parliament to follow suit.

"ISIS has sought to erase the Yazidis through killings; sexual slavery, enslavement, torture and inhuman and degrading treatment and forcible transfer causing serious bodily and mental harm."



## News and views from the Fed Reversing cause and effect

ROWAN POLOVIN  
CHAIRMAN, SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST  
FEDERATION, CAPE COUNCIL

Critics of Israel are often quick to find cause and justification for Palestinian behaviour, whether it be Palestinian intransigence at the negotiation table or the murder of a Jewish family celebrating Shabbat in their home in Judea and Samaria.

This gruesome act of terror has been explained away as a result of Israel's installation of metal detectors at the entrances of the Al Aqsa Mosque. This justification is so perverse and morally repugnant that it needs to be rejected and fought at every opportunity.

Moreover, it represents the kind of cognitive dissonance held by Israel's enemies, in which cause and effect related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is reversed, and history is revised to suit purpose and not fact.

Israel's actions (more specifically actions by Israel's Jews) are always the cause, and the Palestinians' reactions are always the effect. It is an effective and simple strategy that dilutes Palestinian moral agency and concentrates fault upon the Jews. Palestinians are simply reduced to subjects reacting to their Jewish agitators, and the entire conflict is thus explained away.

Inconvenient facts that place the current cause and effect cycle into their correct context, become discarded. In this instance, the metal detectors were installed as a result of the murder of two Israeli border police officers in the compound. These officers were slain by terrorists with a smuggled pistol and homemade machine-guns.

The terrorist act is the cause, and the metal detectors are the effect. And yet, for those applying their bizarre logic to this situation, the metal detectors installed by Israel become the very reason and moral justification for any Palestinian reaction.

Other contextual relevancies, such as major religious sites around the world that have strenuous security measures for worshippers, including Mecca and the Vatican, are discounted as irrelevant.

That Israel is the only place in the Middle East where anyone of any religion can worship freely anywhere they wish, including those who preach against religion itself, is quickly ignored. Indeed, this cause-effect cycle only applies when Jews are involved.

Once a cause-effect revision has been accomplished and explained away, the detractors then retrace their steps to a previous incident for further historical revisionism.

The reason why the murder of Israeli policemen or some other terrorist incident took place, it will be claimed, is because of Jewish presence in purportedly Palestinian land. They ignore that violence against Jews existed long before Israel as a modern Jewish State existed, such as the Hebron and Safed massacres of 1929.

Terrorism is the cause, not the result, of Israel's security measures. However, the revisionists will argue that Israel's attempts to protect herself from Palestinian violence is the cause of instability, while it is indeed the effect of it. The security barrier, they say, is a cause of violence, but not the effect of suicide bombings, and so on.

This revisionist cycle can continue ad nauseam, but ultimately goes back to one simple truth: the existence of Jews living freely alongside others in a Jewish state, albeit one taking up one-sixth of one-per cent of the entire Middle East, is unbearable and unthinkable to the Palestinians and their Arab neighbours.

The prime cause of conflict is fundamentally the inability of the Palestinians, and their apologists, to come to terms with the fact that the Jewish State exists, persists and prospers.

### MARISSA NEWMAN

Halfway through a tour of Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum on Monday, the former Islamic State sex slave slumped.

Two years after the first mass graves were found in Sinjar, the northern Iraqi region where her mother and six of her nine brothers were killed by the Islamic State in 2014, 24-year-old Nadia Murad was staring at photographs of Nazi firing squads peering over piles of Jewish corpses in freshly dug ditches.

Downcast but composed - and dressed entirely in black - the Yazidi woman placed her hand over her mouth.

A UN goodwill ambassador and Nobel Peace Prize nominee now residing in Germany, Murad was in the Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem with a group, to learn from Israel's ill-gotten expertise: how to record, commemorate, and educate about a genocide.

"If only we were able to go back to the ancestral homeland, where we were driven out... we would do the same thing," she said after the tour, speaking through an interpreter.

The Yazidi community "would be able to create a sort of similar type of museum where we would keep... the houses that were blown up, the piles of bones, the skeletons that were left, we could make something out of it", she said.

"And all the things that happened to us - we would remind the future generation so they can... defend themselves and make sure this doesn't happen to them [or us] in the future," she added.

Standing before a photograph of a Nazi soldier shooting a woman and her child at close range, Haider Elias looked on as the Yad Vashem guide drew on the research of Christopher Browning of "Ordinary Men", arguing that humans are inherently capable of evil in certain social frameworks.

That resonated with the Sinjar-born Elias, who said the observation was "very relevant" to the Yazidi killings at the hands of the Islamic State.

"Last night, a Muslim woman was asking me, 'These ISIS members, were they on drugs? Were they alcoholic[s]? Were they normal people?'" he said. "Their understanding, they said, was that they were always drugged before they committed a crime. I said, 'No, they were ordinary men. They were just typical men who would get up and kill people.'"

"The memory fades... and they forget



**SOUTH  
AFRICAN  
ZIONIST  
FEDERATION**



South African  
Friends Of Israel

# Operation Good Neighbour: Israel reveals its massive humanitarian aid to Syria

**JUDAH ARI GROSS**  
**GOLAN HEIGHTS**

The Israeli military last Wednesday unveiled the scope of its humanitarian assistance in Syria that has dramatically mushroomed over the last year to include treating chronically ill children who have no access to hospitals, building clinics in Syria, and supplying hundreds of tons of food, medicines and clothes to war-ravaged villages across the border.

Since Syria disintegrated in a brutal civil war that has left hundreds of thousands dead and millions displaced, Israel has struggled with how to deal with the humanitarian disaster taking place just across the border, a dilemma made even more complicated by the fact that Israel and Syria remain officially at war.

Israel initially responded by providing medical treatment to Syrians wounded in the war, treating more than 3 000 people in field hospitals on the border and in public hospitals, mostly in northern Israel since 2013.

But last Wednesday the army revealed that since June 2016 it has quietly been working on Operation Good Neighbour, a massive multi-faceted humanitarian relief operation to keep starvation away from the thousands of Syrians who live along the border and provide basic medical treatment to those who cannot access it in Syria because of the war.

In the year since the operation was launched, over 600 Syrian children, accompanied by their mothers, have come to Israel for medical treatment.

Hundreds of tons of food, medical equipment and

clothing have also been sent across the border to Syria, clearly bearing Hebrew labels.

The IDF is also currently facilitating the construction of two clinics within Syria, which will be run by locals and workers from NGOs. This includes logistical co-ordination and sending over building materials and medical equipment, according to the army.

These clinics are meant to support 80 000 Syrians living in the area near the Syrian city of Quneitra, just across the border.

Inside Israel, another clinic is also being constructed. This one, being built at an army outpost will be guarded by the IDF but staffed entirely by NGO officials. It will be operated only during the day and is therefore meant to be used to treat Syrians suffering from less severe injuries.

According to IDF figures, the quantity of food sent to Syria has increased tenfold in the past year, from a few dozen tons between 2013 and 2016 to 360 tons in 2016 to 2017 alone.

The amount of clothes, baby formula, medical supplies, diesel fuel and generators being transferred to Syrians have also significantly increased in that time.

While the officers involved in the operation stressed last Wednesday that there is no mass starvation on the border, they said there are food shortages, which drives up the price of bread and other essentials.

Israel, therefore, sends over hundreds of tons of flour, oil, sugar, salt, canned beans and dry goods. It has also sent 12 000 cases of baby formula and 1 800 packages of diapers.

According to the IDF, most of this humanitarian aid was donated by NGOs, but some was also provided by the Israeli government directly.

## Buses, breakfast and hospital care

On a nearly weekly basis, dozens of children and their mothers arrive at the border fence. There they are picked up on buses and brought to a waiting area where they are greeted with a breakfast and refreshments before they are taken to Israeli hospitals for treatment.

They stay in the hospital for anywhere from a few days to up to six months, as was the case with one child who suffered from a particularly rare disorder that required specialised care, army officials said.

According to Col Barak Hiram, head of the army's Bashan Brigade, which is stationed on the Golan border, in addition to being helpful for obvious nutritional reasons, this welcoming breakfast also serves a more important function: showing the Syrians that the Israeli soldiers are not monsters.

Hiram, along with the lieutenant colonel who runs Operation Good Neighbour, said the Syrians often come to Israel with the view that Israel is "Satan".

The Operation Good Neighbour commander said that he'd personally already seen the fruits of this year-old operation, recalling instances of grateful mothers thanking him, hugging the female soldiers involved and telling him that they'd never forget the care they received.

"Israel is the only country that has done something like this with the Syrians," a wounded Syrian man who had been brought to Israel for treatment said. "Israel is the friend of the Syrian people, a humanitarian country."

"They teach us that Israel is the country that hates us the most," a Syrian woman who had received treatment said.

"We came and saw with our own eyes what they are giving us here. Israel is everything to us as a result of what it is giving us."

## With embassy attack, Jordan's ties with Israel go from rancid to toxic



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu meets with Jordanian King Abdullah II in Jordan in January 2014.  
KOBİ GIDEON / GPO/FLASH90

**AVI ISSACHAROFF**

With tensions already boiling over the unrest surrounding the Temple Mount, last Sunday's incident at the Israeli embassy compound in Amman could mark a critical juncture in ties between Israel and Jordan.

In what was quite clearly a terror attack, an Israeli security guard was attacked with a screwdriver by a local carpenter, who was there fixing furniture. The guard opened fire, killing the attacker as well as the landlord, who was also on the premises.

Following the incident, relatives of one of the dead men blocked roads at Mediterranean Sea Square in Amman and called for the Israeli security guard to be harshly punished.

Under normal diplomatic circumstances - without the tensions over Israel's security measures at the Temple Mount following the July 14 terror attack at the holy site - it is likely the relatives' demonstration would have been dispersed swiftly, and the security guard and the embassy's diplomatic team brought back to Israel immediately.

All this has led to a diplomatic crisis between the Jordanian royal court and the Prime Minister's Office, not seen since Mossad agents tried to kill the head of the Hamas terror group Khaled Mashaal in broad daylight on the streets of Amman in 1997.

The stabbing at the Israeli embassy compound comes as little surprise.

The anger over the Temple Mount and the violent clashes in Jerusalem and the West Bank are reverberating throughout the Middle East, and especially in Jordan.

Attitudes to Israel among the Jordanian public, have long been highly negative. But things have got markedly

worse since the July 14 Temple Mount attack, and the subsequent introduction of metal detectors - since withdrawn - at the Lions' Gate.

Jordanian media heavily criticised Israel, as is its wont, but the Jordanian Parliament Speaker Atef Tarawneh set the official tone, by calling the Arab-Israeli terrorists from Umm al-Fahm who carried out the attack, killing two Druze cops, "martyrs who sowed and watered the pure land".

Jordan's incitement against Israel has intensified in recent days, with the metal detectors as the focus. The Waqf officials who chose not to enter the Temple Mount via the new metal detectors, and who have led the opposition to the security measures, are employed by Jordan, with their salaries paid by Jordan.

It seems to have been forgotten that Jordan and Israel have had a peace treaty since 1994, enjoy strong economic ties, and especially a deep security co-operation, with the full extent of Israeli military assistance kept under wraps.

Now few Jordanians owe their very lives to Israeli intelligence, but the country's Hashemite rulers do their utmost to hide this from their subjects. King Abdullah has allowed the tightly muzzled press in his country to attack Israel at every opportunity and has given the green light to politicians like the parliament speaker to praise terrorists.

All this, even as Jordan enjoys the fruits of its security co-operation with Israel, which has helped to prevent a number of terror attacks by Islamist groups against Jordanian targets.

Despite all this, Abdullah is the only figure who can help bring an end to the Temple Mount crisis, and end the standoff over the attack at the embassy compound.

# Uganda's Jews are down to one meal a day because of famine

**BEN SALES  
KAMPALA**

Uganda's 2 000 Jews have long maintained a modest existence. They live in the east of the country in a hilly, rural area that lacks paved roads, consistent electricity and freely running water. But this year, the situation for Uganda's Jewish community, called the Abayudaya, has worsened.

Twenty million people across Africa and the Middle East are now at risk of illness and death due to a famine that is centred in Somalia, Nigeria, Yemen and South Sudan. Caused by a mix of factors, including civil wars, underdeveloped infrastructure and drought, the famine is "the largest humanitarian crisis since the creation of the UN", Stephen O'Brien, the emergency relief co-ordinator for the United Nations, said in March.

"People look dehydrated and starving," Gershom Sizomu, the community's rabbi, told JTA on Tuesday. "People got sick and weak, and there are people who died because of complications because of the food shortage. People were already sick, so without food they

become weaker and weaker."

Sizomu told JTA that the Abayudaya, who rely on their own crops to survive, have been hit hard by the drought. While conditions are easing now because the harvest season has arrived for maize and beans, many families are subsisting on one meal a day, he said.

'There are people who died because of complications because of the food shortage'

Two community members who were already sick, have died of malnutrition.

Fleeing the area is useless, Sizomu added - food shortages are plaguing the cities, too.

The community, whose members converted to Judaism under Conservative auspices about 15 years ago, stays in regular touch with Jewish communities in the United States and Israel. But only one American synagogue has provided famine relief to the Abayudaya.

Beth El, a Conservative congregation in Pittsburgh, had hosted Sizomu for a weekend of Torah study last year, where he mentioned the risk of impending famine. So, when 60 congregation members convened last month for the synagogue's annual meeting, congregation president Cliff Spungen passed around an envelope for donations. It came back filled with \$800.

In the following weeks, Spungen sent e-mail appeals to



**Gershom Sizomu, religious leader of the Abayudaya, in 2003.**  
KEN HIVELY/LOS ANGELES TIMES VIA GETTY IMAGES/JTA

## Rotterdam posters of Jewish man and Muslim woman kissing, spark a scandal

**CNAAN LIPSHIZ  
AMSTERDAM**

In a country where sex toys are displayed in shop windows and television commercials often feature nudity, a picture of a clothed, heterosexual couple kissing may not seem like the stuff of scandal.

But precisely such an image - part of a poster campaign celebrating diversity in the Netherlands - has triggered acrimonious debate, charges of racism, acts of vandalism and even threats by those who found it offensive.

The reason: The women pictured in a series of posters were wearing Muslim headscarves - including one woman who was shown kissing a man wearing a kippah.

To some of the detractors, the poster campaign was a provocation designed to upset the sensibilities of Dutch Muslims and other non-white minorities. But to campaign supporters - including some prominent members of the Dutch Jewish community - it was an important statement about the need to counter radicalism and coercion in the Netherlands' growing Muslim minority.

Initiated by a Muslim activist for women's rights, Shirin Musa, the posters are part of a municipal initiative in support of women, mostly Muslim, who face abuse if they choose spouses their communities disapprove of.

Bearing the slogan "In the Netherlands, you choose your own partner", the posters were placed in bus stops and on signposts across Rotterdam. Supporters of the initiative also handed out fliers with

the images on the streets.

The campaign features four couples locking lips; the Jewish-Muslim couple; a Muslim woman kissing a blond man; two women, one in a South Asian dress, and a black man with a woman who appears to be of South Asian descent.

The campaign is in support of "women with an immigrant background from patriarchal communities", Musa said in an



**A poster in the Dutch city of Rotterdam encouraging free choice of romantic partners.**

interview on Dutch television last month. Such women, she said, are subjected to violence and coercion over their choice of romantic partners.

Citing a 2014 study by the Verwey Jonker Institute, a social policy research group, Dutch officials say there are between 600 and 1 900 victims of forced marriage in the Netherlands. The report also describes wives who are held captive

or abandoned.

The head of the Dutch Labour Party, Lodweijk Asscher, praised the campaign as "beautiful".

But the posters triggered a backlash among some Muslims, including within Asscher's own party. One of Labour's representatives on the Rotterdam City Council, Fatima Talbi, wrote in an op-ed that she was "furious" about the campaign, which she said treats Muslims as though they are "backward" by turning the matter of forced marriage into "an integration issue".

Tunahan Kuzu, a lawmaker in the Dutch parliament for the radical pro-Islam, pro-immigration party Denk, which in the March elections won three seats in the parliament's lower house, called the campaign "provocative, discriminating and patronising".

Several of the posters were vandalised, hateful rhetoric was directed at their supporters on social media and activists distributing campaign fliers reported threats of violence.

Two men filmed themselves destroying a poster that was placed on a bus shelter.

"Choose your own freedom, they say," one of the men said. "Rip it all the way out."

The poster featuring the man wearing a kippah was the image that "drew the most attention and criticism" by Muslims, according to Ronny Naftaniel, the executive vice chairman of the Brussels-based CEJI group, a Jewish organisation that promotes tolerance in Europe, and a former director of the CIDI Dutch Jewish watchdog on anti-Semitism. (JTA)

the synagogue's members, as well as to Temple Emanuel, a nearby Reform synagogue. In total, the Pittsburgh campaign has raised \$6 500 - a hefty sum in rural Uganda, where a family in Nabugoye, the Abayudaya's main village, can live on as little as \$5 a day.

"We hope it helps," Spungen said. "It's been really eye-opening and meaningful that people have been generous."

When it comes to the Jewish community fundraising for famine relief in East Africa this year, Beth El's campaign is a rare success story. Take the Jewish Coalition for East Africa Relief, 24 Jewish groups convened by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. More than two months after the coalition was created, it has raised just \$10 000.

The "trickle of dollars" is not enough to even begin planning for allocations, said Will Recant, the coalition's chairman. Instead, the coalition is now investing in raising awareness of the crisis through education and advocacy, sending pamphlets and UN fact sheets to congregations and Jewish communities.

The coalition's goal is broader than the synagogue campaign. The synagogues were able to make an impact because their donations targeted one small community. The coalition hopes to make a significant contribution to the overall aid effort in East Africa.

Fundraising has been difficult, Recant added, because the famine is a gradual crisis that hasn't garnered much international attention.

The American Jewish World Service (AJWS) has garnered \$200 000 since June for East Africa relief.

"We've realised that with ongoing conflict and crises that take place over long periods of time, we're not getting as much as we need to fill the needs on the ground," Wolthuis said.

Once the coalition raises enough money, Recant said it hopes to help the Abayudaya with long-term water supply issues.

This part of East Africa last experienced a severe famine in 2011. That year, a coalition of Jewish groups under the same name raised nearly \$150 000.

Sizomu told JTA that the Abayudaya shared the money they received from Pittsburgh with surrounding communities also suffering from shortages.

And if the coming harvest improves conditions, Sizomu said he hopes to refocus the community's attention on setting up water storage and irrigation systems so farmers can weather the next drought.

"People are depressed, and you can see it on their faces," Sizomu said. "Parents are depressed because they have many things to take care of. There's a constant need for food."

# Gett refusers thrive on fear, shame, threats and silence

**Michelle K Blumenau Alge**, the co-founder of Go Getters - The SA Gett Network, takes us through her experience in this role and why it is important.

Go Getters - the SA Gett Network, was established over a year ago to help abused women get their gets in South Africa. We recently got our ninth get with the help of the Beth Din.

When we started Go Getters, we really didn't have an understanding of this underbelly of our community. It's harrowing hearing stories of women affected by get abuse. If you believe the abuse is confined to the get, think again. Men, who have a need to dominate and control, abuse their children and spouses in various ways and financial and emotional abuse are the starting points.

Through helping divorcees, Stacey Lewis of [www.thedivorceesource.co.za](http://www.thedivorceesource.co.za) also noticed the prevalence of financial abuse. She approached the Chevrah Kadisha Social Services with a way to deal with this issue. The Chev has trained the first group of volunteers to deal with protection orders and the basics of maintenance court. The Chev has also set up a group of 20 lawyers who have stepped forward to help pro bono.

The get refusers we deal with are religious or secular, extort their spouses with the children, they refuse to move out of the marital home, they distress their children to the point of hospitalisation, they fire their lawyers repeatedly and extend their divorce trials, they abandon their children.



They send threatening messages, they manipulate and they lie. You probably know and like these men because it's really important to them that you view them favourably. They thrive in an environment of fear, shame, threats and silence. Even their rabbis buy them.

When you hear these stories you may just say, "ag shame". This wasn't something I was able to do. Neither could my co-founder, Balu Nivison, nor the Go Getters teams in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

I met a couple in Cape Town when I lived there in the late eighties. They married, had four kids and it was always a treat to see them every year during my holidays in the city.

The husband met a gentile woman and began an affair. He fathered a child with her when she was newly-married to someone else. In 2012, I

met them and their illegitimate son to find out what happened.

He told me that he planned to make his Jewish wife pay for a get. I first felt the now familiar red-black, shaking outrage that does not allow me to relent.

He fathered two more illegitimate children and they proudly announced each pregnancy on Facebook. Post the civil divorce where the judge ordered him to pay both child and spousal maintenance, he married this non-Jewish woman, wearing a kippah.

Go Getters was born at that time; we began begging both of them to release the Jewish wife prior to their civil marriage.

The Beth Din and many community members intervened, but the pleas fell on the deaf ears of this perverted couple. Eventually he demanded R2,5 million to give the get. This was refused.

The Beth Din excommunicated the husband with breathtaking swiftness. To date, since the civil divorce was finalised in November 2015, he has paid maintenance once.

The courts have failed the Jewish wife and cherem did not help her either. She remains spiritually married to this beast.

We are told that the dysfunctional South African legal system protects Jewish women from this problem. Really?

People say that the Beth Din should

free her and other agunot. They can't. They tell me get refusers should be beaten. Maimonides ruled that if a man refused to grant a divorce, he was to be whipped without mercy until he did so. No one has offered Go Getters this service and, in any event, it is illegal here.

To me, get refusal is the equivalent of enslaving another. It's the removal of free choice to have relationships, to marry and to have more children. It's a monstrous form of domestic abuse.

One of the reasons for the agunah crisis worldwide is increased lack of respect for authority. The Beth Din can threaten a man with cherem, and that's where it ends. We realised a civil society intervention was needed to support the Beth Din.

We needed to find ways to fight the bullies. We do this using community networks. We are skilled in social and traditional media. Exposing the abuse to close friends and family or depending on the legal circumstance, arranging for arrest, seems to be the most effective way to enhance an abuser's willing get giving.

We proceed with no fear. We simply have no tolerance for these absurd cases of get abuse. We will do all that's necessary to stamp it out.

• *Hear more at Limmud Joburg on Sunday, August 6, 09:15-10:15. Follow Go Getters at [www.facebook.com/SAGettNetwork](http://www.facebook.com/SAGettNetwork)*

## World News in Brief

### Killer's mother nabbed for incitement

JERUSALEM - The mother of the Palestinian terrorist who killed three Israelis as they sat at their Shabbat table, was on Monday night arrested for incitement.

Israeli troops arrested Ibtisam al-Abed, the Israel Defence Forces said. She is accused of "aggravated incitement" against Jews.

Following the attack last week Friday night by her son Omar, 19, in the West Bank settlement of Halamish, al-Abed said in a statement captured on video and widely distributed on social media: "Praise Allah, I am proud of my son. May Allah be pleased with him."

On Monday, the al-Abed family hosted guests and al-Abed handed out sweets. The IDF said she "called for attacks on Jews".

Omar al-Abed, 19, from the nearby Palestinian village of Kobar, was shot and injured during the attack, in which he stabbed to death three members of one family who were together to celebrate the birth of a grandson.

Yosef Salomon, 70, his daughter Chaya, 46, and son Elad, 36, and a father of five who were in the home at the time of the massacre, were killed. Tovah Salomon, 68, Yosef's wife and the mother of the others killed, was seriously injured in the attack. (JTA)

Wake up every morning to the sound of waves

ADRIENNE  
**HERSCH**  
PROPERTIES



**4 BEDROOMS APARTMENT**  
152 m<sup>2</sup> + 21 m<sup>2</sup> BALCONY  
**FROM NIS 4 300 000**

**3 BEDROOMS MINI PENTHOUSE**  
151 m<sup>2</sup> + 39 m<sup>2</sup> BALCONY  
**FROM NIS 7 700 000**



You're about to live in a unique architectural creation on the waterfront of the most colorful, vibrant city along Israel's coastline. This impressive, intimate, and exciting residential tower has been meticulously crafted in accordance with exceptional construction standards that are rare to find. The tower features two apartments per floor, with floor lobbies, a magnificent and especially large entrance lobby with a reception desk, indoor swimming pool, private fitness club, smart high-speed elevators, and breathtaking views of the sea above Sironit Beach.

Right at the heart of the city's leisure and entertainment quarter, on tranquil, highly desirable Dankner Street, near bustling Independence Square filled with restaurants, charming cafes, chic boutiques, and thrilling cultural events – all just minutes from the beach. *You can have it all in one unbeatable location.*

Natural light and the pure blue of the sea stream in through every window of your large, spacious apartment. From the large balcony, you will enjoy spectacular panoramic views of the Mediterranean from the coast all the way to the horizon. The high level of finish and generous technical specifications set a new standard of refined aesthetic perfection never before seen in luxury residential towers anywhere in Israel. *Your apartment is like a villa floating among the clouds.*

For more info contact: Adrienne Hersch 011 728 7013



ahprop



ahprop



ahprop



# INVITATION

Please join us  
on 13 AUGUST for the  
**ABSA JEWISH ACHIEVER  
AWARDS BANQUET**

We invite you or your company to purchase  
a table or seats for this glittering event.  
All money raised supports the free  
publication and distribution of the  
SA Jewish Report newspaper.

**DATE:** 13 AUGUST 2017

**COCKTAILS:** 16H30

**DINNER & AWARDS:** 18H00

**DRESS:** BLACK TIE/FORMAL

**VENUE:** VODAWORLD  
MIDRAND

PLEASE RSVP BY EMAIL TO:  
[RSVP@sajewishreport.co.za](mailto:RSVP@sajewishreport.co.za)

# A GALAXY OF STARS



Absa  
jewish achiever awards

# 2017



Jewish Report

 **ABSA**

**CHIVAS**  
LIVE WITH CHIVALRY



 **LCC**  
THE CREATIVE COUNSEL





# Press Secretary Sean Spicer resigns: His most memorable Jewish moments

**BEN SALES  
WASHINGTON**

Sean Spicer has resigned his post as White House Press Secretary, reportedly disappointed with the appointment of New York financier Anthony Scaramucci as communications director. According to some Jewish leaders, he should have quit three months ago.

Over six months as President Donald Trump's mouthpiece, Spicer managed to get in two separate tiffs with Jewish leaders over the Holocaust, one which sparked calls for his job. For good measure, he also made controversial statements about Jerusalem and the rash of JCC bomb threats.

Here are four times Spicer mixed it up with the Jews, and a bonus from someone who played him on TV.



White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer giving a briefing at the White House.

## Spicer and the Holocaust, Episode I: Omission of the Jews

Spicer often had the unenviable task of doubling down on his boss' more outlandish statements - for example, the visibly incorrect insistence that the inauguration crowd for Trump was larger than Barack Obama's.

On January 27, Trump's official statement marking International Holocaust Remembrance Day omitted any mention of Jews. Jewish groups - even those that supported Trump - slammed the statement. The Trump-friendly Zionist Organisation of America, expressed "chagrin and deep pain" at Trump "omitting any mention of anti-Semitism and the six million Jews".

But the president's deputies said the statement was "inclusive" of the Holocaust's range of victims. Spicer in a media briefing called the critics "pathetic" and accused them of "nitpicking a statement".

"To suggest that remembering the Holocaust and acknowledging all of the people - Jewish, gypsies, priests, disabled, gays and lesbians - I mean it is pathetic."

## Spicer and the Holocaust, Episode II: "Hitler, who didn't even sink to using chemical weapons"

Shortly after Trump ordered an attack on Syria in retaliation for a chemical weapons attack by Bashar Assad, Spicer wanted to accentuate Assad's evil. So, he compared the Syrian dictator to Hitler - in a way that made Hitler look good.

"We didn't use chemical weapons in World War II," he said. "We had someone as despicable as Hitler who didn't even sink to using chemical weapons."

Hitler did, of course, use chemical weapons on civilians, gassing millions of Jews with Zyklon B in concentration camps.

But when a reporter asked Spicer to clarify his words, he angered some critics even more, claiming that Hitler "was not using the gas on his own people", then saying Nazis killed Jews in "Holocaust centres".

The Jewish organisational wrath came swiftly. A range of groups criticised the statement.

Later that day, Spicer apologised on CNN.

"Frankly, I mistakenly made an inappropriate and insensitive reference to the Holocaust, for which frankly there is no comparison," he told host Wolf Blitzer. "And for that I apologise. It was a mistake to do that."

Spicer says Trump was right about the JCC bomb threats.

A couple of weeks before his second Holocaust gaffe, Spicer enjoyed a rare moment of validation. Following the arrest of an Israeli teen for the rash of bomb threats phoned into Jewish community centres this year, Spicer took an opportunity to note that his boss had been right all along.

Discussing the threats in February, according to Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro, Trump told a meeting of states' attorney generals that "sometimes it's the reverse" and attacks are made "to make people - or to make others - look bad".

The comments - if accurate - were a shock to Jews who had faulted Trump for hesitating to condemn the attacks. Two liberal Jewish groups blamed him for fostering a climate conducive to hate.

The Israeli teen's arrest, Spicer said, proved Trump right. Spicer called on left-wing groups to be "held accountable".

"We saw these threats coming into Jewish community centres, and there was an immediate jump to criticise folks on the right, and to denounce people on the right and ask them to condemn them, and it turns out that in fact it wasn't someone on the right," Spicer said at a media briefing.

## Spicer definitely knows where the Western Wall is.

In May, Jewish groups criticised the Trump administration - this time from the right - for not affirming that the Western Wall is part of Israel. National Security Adviser H R McMaster, declined to say so, and a State Department staffer reportedly told Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office that the site is "not your territory".

While Israel has annexed eastern Jerusalem, where the wall is located, the international community does not recognise Israel's claims.

In what may have been an attempt at compromise, Spicer told reporters the site is "clearly in Jerusalem". But no one was disputing that.

In the end, Spicer did not address the question of sovereignty, adding that the debate over Jerusalem has "had serious consideration" and "will be a topic that's going to be discussed during the president's trip between the parties that he meets with".

The demurrals irked Jews who were hoping for a more hawkish Israel policy from the president.

## Live from New York, it's Jewish Easter!

Spicer inspired one of the most talked-about comic creations of the early Trump era: Melissa McCarthy's imitation of the Press Secretary on multiple episodes of "Saturday Night Live".

One of those skits may well enter the Jewish canon: Alluding to the mix-up over Hitler and the "Holocaust centres", McCarthy's version of Spicer, dressed as the Easter Bunny, uses toy vegetables to explain the story of Passover, or what he/she calls "Jewish Easter".

The pharaoh is "a bad, bad hombre", explains "Spicer", using one of Trump's catchphrases. "He's doing some really bad stuff to the Jews. I mean, not even Hitler is -" (he catches himself, saying under his breath, "not going to go there again"). Then, manipulating the toys, he explains: "The Jews: These guys pass over, literally, these guys float above the pharaoh." (JTA)

Photo: Drew Angerer/Getty Images/White Trump

Sandton/Wynberg	Balfour/Highlands North
<p><b>Tel:</b> 011 887 7336</p> <p><b>Cell:</b> 082 823 0655</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motor City Cnr Rautenbach &amp; 6th Street</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Jorge &amp; Jean</b></p>	<p><b>Tel:</b> 011 440 8980</p> <p><b>Cell:</b> 073 559 1053</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cnr 11th Ave &amp; Louis Botha Also from Athol Street</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tony</b></p>

Follow us  
"The Open Flame"

T's & C's apply

## LUNCH TIME SPECIAL R50

Hot beef on Rye | Shakshooka | Chicken wings  
Beef shwarma | Bunny chow | Burger

Check out our new sushi selection and our new menu

Tel: (011) 440-3752/3 | [www.theopenflame.co.za](http://www.theopenflame.co.za)

## Frank Solomon Hearing Centre

- Affordable Hearing Aids for Pensioners
- 2 Year Warranty
- No Follow-Up Charges
- Latest Technology
- Small and Discreet Hearing Aids
- Extensive Wireless Communication Portfolio Available
- Supplements for Tinnitus, treatment approved by the American ENT association

FREE hearing screen TEST

WORLD'S FIRST Built-in Lithium-ion Rechargeable Hearing Aid

PHONAK

life is on

Fairmount:  
George Ave, Sandringham  
Johannesburg  
Fax: 011 849-3027

CONTACT US: (011) 849-6256

Additional Branches:  
Bedfordview • Benoni • Germiston

Open on Sundays  
09h30 to 13h00

## BLUE POOL & POND TWO

SPECIALISING IN:

- New Pools \* Fish Ponds**
- \* Marbelite \* Pump Repair \* Filter & Pump Installations \* Pool & Pond Maintenance \* Fish Pond Strip & Clean \* Pool Acid Wash**

Tel: (011) 079-4168

Shop No 5, DURHAM Street, RAEDENE



*The Park on 7 is situated in Hyde Park Corner Shopping Centre  
A stylish blank canvas venue Perfect for urban weddings,  
Bar/Bat mitzvahs and corporate events  
Limitless creative opportunities • Panoramic Views*

Nicolene: nicolene@theparkon7.com - 072 593 641  
Carol: carol@theparkon7.com - 082 601 5734  
Office line: 079 990 0506

Level 7 Hyde Park Corner  
cnr. William Nicol Drive & 6th Road, Jan Smuts Avenue, Sandton



THE PARK

HOUSE OF EVENTS ON 7  
Meeting and Events Venue

# King Kong and its Jewish connections

PETER FELDMAN

When hit musical King Kong was originally performed at His Majesty's Theatre in Johannesburg's city centre in 1959, mixed audiences were a rarity. Among others, Jewish people would dress up to go to watch exceptional performances at this theatre – which has long since been destroyed.

And more than that, a number of Jewish people were involved in putting on King Kong at the time. These included ANC stalwart and political icon, Arthur Goldreich, and celebrated director Leon Gluckman.

It is now having a dramatic revival in South Africa after an absence of 38 years. It was last staged at Johannesburg's His Majesty's Theatre in April 1979 and was an entirely new production directed by an American, Joe Walker, who rewrote the book, and changed the story and music. It was a colossal flop.

Goldreich, an architect and visual designer who was arrested during the apartheid clampdown, and later went into exile where he died in 2011, was the original decor and costume designer for the production.

The musical, which helped to launch the careers of Miriam Makeba and Hugh Masekela, has had strong Jewish links through the years. It is being staged at the Fugard Theatre in Cape Town and is due to reach Johannesburg audiences in September.

The original novel, written by Harry Bloom, from a synopsis by Clive and Irene Menell, was transformed into a jazz opera,



A scene from the original production of King Kong.

celebrating township life and revolving around the legendary Sophiatown boxer and gangster Ezekiel Dlamini, known as King Kong. His tragic story was brilliantly translated to the stage and became an international hit, playing first in South Africa to 200 000 multiracial audiences and then to London's West End.

Pat Williams wrote the lyrics and musician and composer Todd Matshikiza wrote the exuberant score. The musical director was Stan Glasser, who is also reputed to have contributed to the musical score but, according to a source, this aspect became a contentious issue with the Matshikiza family, which held the production back.

In his book, *Just the Ticket*, the

legendary Percy Tucker, founder of Computicket, who attended the opening night at Wits Great Hall in 1959, wrote: "It is impossible to overstate either the impact or the significance of King Kong in apartheid South Africa of the period. It gave dignity to the black population of the country and brought recognition of black talent.

"For white theatre-goers it was an eye-opener, and for the theatre itself, a triumphant vindication of the efforts to promote its development and widen its horizons."

At the time, Leon Gluckman, a brilliant actor and director, shared his strong belief with another Jewish theatre icon, producer/director Ian Bernhardt, that blacks and whites had much to give to each other, and

the idea for an all-black King Kong was born.

In February 1959, a company called African Musical Theatre leaped into an exciting new era with the premiere of King Kong at the Wits Great Hall. It had an all-black cast, including Miriam Makeba and the Manhattan Brothers – and an all-Jewish backstage crew.

Two decades later it was staged at the Shaftesbury Theatre in London's West End. It is ironic to note that three days after Gluckman's death, Parliament passed an Act bringing about the total desegregation of theatres in South Africa – the issue that he had championed for so long in the true spirit of so many Jewish liberal thinkers in South Africa.

The new production, directed by

Jonathan Munby, has a revised book with additional lyrics by William Nicholson. It boasts a proudly South African cast brimming with talent.

Daniel Galloway, executive director of the Fugard Theatre, is thrilled that after all these years the musical was being staged in South Africa for a whole new generation.

"It will showcase the best in South African talent. The original united audiences of all colours, launched careers and put South Africa firmly on the international map. We are excited to be recreating the 'Back of the Moon shebeen and the vibe around it.'

Theatre owner and producer Daphne Kuhn, commenting on the "remarkable" contribution by the Jewish community to theatre in South Africa said: "There would not be an entertainment industry were it not for the Jews. It is said that theatre and the Jews go together like bagels and lax – or kichel and herring!

"It holds true to this day – even though there has been an enormous shift in our audiences, and the genres and themes preferred for works presented today and yesteryear – to cater for all in our ever-changing political and cultural environment.

"As a minority group, our artistic contribution has been disproportionately high and most significant in the development of South African theatre. Those in the industry have lent their expertise and artistic excellence to the continuing growth of theatre and its South African identity."

## Mentally reading and influencing people

SIMON SHEAR

Gilan Gork is a mentalist who dazzles audiences with mind-reading displays and can interpret depths of meaning in subtle shifts of body language. He's also a nice Jewish boy.

Gilan matriculated at King David Victory Park and even spent a few weeks at a yeshiva in Jerusalem, an experience that he tells me didn't make him more religious, but was a valuable learning experience.

A hunger for knowledge, no doubt made Gilan what he is today. His parents owned an educational toy centre, and he grew up playing with puzzles and interactive games, rather than toy guns. Today he reads voraciously, constantly looking to expand his insight into human character.

But theory is only part of the mentalist's toolkit. "As humans, we are such complex creatures," Gilan tells me, "you never know what's going to affect someone."

Over years of performing and paying close attention to human behaviour – Gilan started performing when he was 12 – "you start to become more intuitive. You start picking up little nuances."

I ask him about my body language. He notes that I tense up as he begins to answer, as if wary of what he'll diagnose. Of course, he is correct. Whoever wants the truth?

Analysing body language is not

about glancing at a person and deducing their character and fortune – a kind of whole body palm reading – so much as becoming conscious of subtle shifts in behaviour that offers clues about the subject's mindset.

The technique is obviously useful in business: knowing when to push for a sale, say, or intuiting that your boss has started dissembling when she says there's no money for salary increases.

Recognising body language cues is also great for improving communication in one's personal life. Moreover, body language expertise is not just about reading meanings, but projecting them; displaying confidence in the boardroom, or coming across as trustworthy and likeable when you meet someone new.

"People are so busy online these days, they've forgotten how to meet people in person," Gilan points out. "90 per cent of their opinion of you is formed in the first four minutes. You can use body language to seem open, honest and easy to get along with."

That sounds like a godsend for the Tinder generation, but I wondered about the possible dark side of influence training. I immediately thought of "pick-up artists" who claim to train men how to manipulate women into desiring them. Gilan's specialty is teaching the art of influence, but what's to say that influence will be used for the good?

Influence underlies everything, Gilan says, it underpins success in all endeavours. But it's like a surgeon's blade: neutral in itself, it can be deployed to heal or harm.

Gilan says that when he teaches people to be more influential, he explains that influence can be used for good or bad. He encourages participants to seek win-win solutions that create a positive influence. It's not just the right thing to do; creating positive influence is invaluable for strong leadership, effective parenting, or building a community.

Teaching more effective communication in your professional and personal life isn't my first association when I think of mentalists. What even is a mentalist?

Gilan is refreshingly candid: "It's a marketing term." Mentalist is a useful shorthand for any of a diverse, but interconnected, group of entertainers and guides interested in analysing and moulding the human mind. "My niche is to read and influence people."

And though he appears to divine the pictures inside your head and can discern your mood by the way your arms are folded, Gilan claims no paranormal powers. As student and teacher of the science of influence, he offers a toolkit for more effective communications.

But can influence really be learned? Surely charm is something you're born with?

Being likeable is one aspect of

Gilan Gork



influence, Gilan tells me, but it's not all of it. Through body language cues and influence training you can become more open and likeable, but the science of influence is more extensive than that.

There's just one downside. When I sat down with Gilan, he was so open and personable that I wasted precious time rambling on about my own life before remembering that I had been dispatched to interview him.

The tangible benefits of influence training probably explain a shift in Gilan's career from mainly performing entertainment-based "mind reading" shows to a greater

emphasis on teaching the applied science of influence. It's no surprise that corporates and organisations prefer entertainment that also promises to improve the effectiveness of employees and members.

For Gilan, the benefits aren't abstract. "Any success I have, I attribute to these techniques," he insists.

• Gork will be performing at the Maslow in Sandton from the 10th to the 12th of August. For more information, visit <https://www.gilangork.com/> or email [manager@gilangork.com](mailto:manager@gilangork.com)

# World of antiques comes to The Mall of Africa

*From regal to retro; from vintage to Victorian*

**Friday July 28 - Sunday July 30, 2017**

**09:00 - 20:00 daily**

**Crystal Court, Level 5,**

**Mall of Africa**

**Opening night**

**Thursday July 27, 2017 | 19:00 - 21:00**

The trading platform in antiques has changed from the days when you consulted an antiques dealer sitting in his dusty shop among all those treasures. Today, new ways of buying and selling have taken over the industry - you can now buy from antique fairs, at auctions or trade online.

Antiques have come into their own and every great decor setting needs a stunning statement piece - whether it's a beautiful antique dining table or a more modern Scandinavian chair, a great piece of art, or simply some beautiful silver or glassware.

South Africa has a fine tradition of antiquing and the monthly table-top antique fairs in Johannesburg and Pretoria have been going since the 1970s, with antique fairs at Nelson Mandela

Square, Hyde Park Corner, Brooklyn Square and Melrose House Museum in Pretoria, popular with collectors and visitors alike - earning its place among the great cities of the world like Paris, London, Barcelona and Buenos Aires, which are famous for their antique fairs.

The annual National Antiques & Decorative Arts Faire (NAADA Faire), which has thrilled

antique lovers for the past 17 years, now has a new home in the Crystal Court at the Mall of Africa and takes place from July 28 to 30.

The presentation and glamour of the National Antiques & Decorative Arts Faire is unmatched in South Africa - from the decor design presentation style to the glamour of the opening night which attracts the who's who of the collecting world.

The result is the most talked about antiques, art and collectables fair in the country and a must-attend event for serious antique lovers, decorators and people who simply love and appreciate treasures of the past.

Both collectors and the public will be seduced by the variety of antiques, collectables, and decorative arts that will be on show in the Crystal Court at the Mall of Africa.

It's the place to find that statement piece that will be the talking point of your home, perhaps an impressive sideboard for your new home or an antique piano to fill that space in your lounge. Add to your collection of silver, find a unique porcelain dinner or tea set, pick up a unique piece of jewellery or simply find something special that catches your eye.

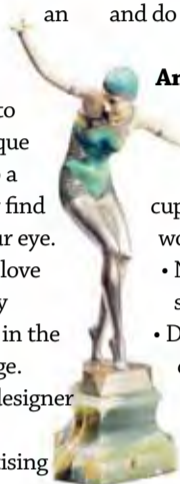
New and younger collectors will love trying on retro clothing, find funky costume jewellery or see the latest in the steam punk trend that is all the rage.

Take a selfie wearing a vintage hat or designer shoes and post it online. More modern collectables such as 70s furniture, advertising billboards and art deco pieces, are the antiques of tomorrow and very sought after with new-age collectors.

Two international antique dealers will be exhibiting: Dutch dealer Ricus Dullaert

who specialises in Dutch furniture and Chinese porcelain and American specialist dealer Ed Pascoe whose beautiful range of English ceramics includes Royal Doulton, Royal Crown Derby, Moorcroft and other English ceramics.

Louise Irvine, international author and specialist in ceramics, will be giving a talk to the Royal Doulton Collectors Club on Saturday July 29, and will impart her extensive knowledge and do book signings.



### Any idea what your antiques are worth?

How many of you have something tucked away in a cupboard that was given to you that you would dearly love to have valued?

- Not sure if that silver tea-set is solid silver or plate?
- Do you have some military items that could be of value?
- Is the porcelain collection left to you by your great-aunt worth anything?
- Have you inherited some old coins and want to know what they are worth?
- That dusty painting that belonged to your great-aunt could well be a long-lost SA old master.

• Even that 70s designer bag you bought in Paris could be worth more than you paid for it.

Speculate no more... bring your valuable items to the NAADA Faire to be appraised by an expert from auctioneers Stephan Welz & Company...you just might strike gold.

### Win R10 000 in gift vouchers to spend at our fairs

Guests booking for the Charity Opening Night and visitors to the Faire, can fill in a form to win R10 000 in gift vouchers to spend at any of our fairs.

Visit [www.naada.co.za](http://www.naada.co.za) for information and to book for Opening Night. For more information contact Giuli on 083-377-6721 or Clyde on 082-883-4933.



# 2017 NATIONAL ANTIQUES & FAIRE

DECORATIVE ARTS

28TH - 30TH JULY

## SA'S MOST POPULAR ANTIQUE FAIRE

### 10AM - 8PM DAILY

A visual banquet showcasing...

- Antique Furniture
- Art & Decorative Arts
- Silver, porcelain, bric-a-brac
- Vintage clothing & Accessories
- Jewellery

### OPENING NIGHT IN AID OF 67 BLANKETS

THURSDAY 27TH JULY, 6.30PM FOR 7PM | R150PP

Book online at: [www.naada.co.za](http://www.naada.co.za)  
Call: 011 802 1602 / 083 377 6721  
Email: Giuli - [giuli@gocomms.co.za](mailto:giuli@gocomms.co.za)

### VALUATIONS IN AID OF 67 BLANKETS

28TH - 30TH JULY 10AM TO 5PM

Bring your art, silver porcelain or pics of furniture to be expertly valued.



Mall Of Africa | Crystal Court | Lone Creek Crescent & Magwa Crescent, Waterfall City



A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

## Dangerous route using religion to instigate violence

As part of a diplomatic arrangement with Jordan, Israel has agreed to remove the metal detectors it had installed on the Temple Mount in response to the murder of two of its border policemen.

The installation of metal detectors was used by Palestinian leaders as a pretext for creating popular anger over supposed threats to a Muslim holy site. A number of terrorist attacks have directly resulted from that incitement, most notably the murder of three Israeli Jews in their home last Shabbat and an attack on the Israeli Embassy in Amman.

Using religion as a means of instigating violent protests and acts of terrorism, is an insidiously reckless tactic, unless the intention is to start a war. The devastating effectiveness of this was demonstrated in September 2000, when the Palestinian Authority used a visit to the Temple Mount by Ariel Sharon to launch an all-out terrorist war against the Israeli people.

The statement on the violence released by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation was a relatively encouraging one. As a matter of course, it began by endorsing to some extent the Palestinian narrative of Muslim holy sites being interfered with.

However, it went on to conclude with a balanced and sensible call on all parties not to further enflame tensions in an already dangerously volatile environment and to return to final status peace talks based on the two states for two peoples formula.

It is encouraging that our government continues

to hold firm to that line, despite coming under pressure from certain quarters to adopt a far more hostile position against Israel.

Locally, there has also been a great deal of inflammatory rhetoric over the alleged "threat" to Islamic holy sites. We continue to hope that tensions in the region will start to ease, but in the meantime urge people to be extra vigilant and to report any unusual activity that comes to their attention immediately to the Jewish Community Security Organisation (CSO).

There was justifiable outrage over the brazen display of a Nazi flag in a private home in Northcliff last week. Fortunately, the owner immediately took it down when confronted.

The Board formally approached him to remove the flag, advising him that publicly endorsing an ideology which endorses and was guilty of genocide, violates any justification based on freedom of expression.

It is understandable that members of our community felt deeply outraged over such gestures and would want to do something about it. I would nevertheless ask that in the event of further such incidents, people refrain from taking matters into their own hands and rather pass the information on to the SAJBD and CSO to deal with.

On August 20, the Board will be holding its biennial national conference. I will be reporting in more detail on this in my next few columns, but in the meantime, I ask you all to save the date.

*This column is paid for by the SA Jewish Board of Deputies*



**Above Board**  
**Jeff Katz**  
National Chairman

## Letters

### CAREFUL: TOO MUCH FIRE CAN LEAD TO BURN-OUT

Having endured an often difficult history, many Jews decided that enough was enough. In order to survive, we would need to return to our ancient homeland and would also have to toughen up.

The ghetto Jew was seen as a loser who allowed himself to be trodden on. And so, the tough Israeli was born.

This produced the multiple miracles of Israel's establishment, survival and incredible prosperity. Everything was achieved in an extremely short time and in a desert without any natural resources by a tiny nation of immigrants. All this was done while having to fight a number of wars against an overwhelming number of surrounding enemies.

This is probably the greatest and most astonishing success story in history. These achievements filled many of us with pride, especially when much of the world hailed Israel's David and Goliath victory in the Six Day War.

Much of this positive sentiment has been lost with Israel now being seen by many as the aggressor.

While Israel feels cornered by so much hostility, she feels the need to fight fire with fire in order to survive. And indeed, this is exactly what enabled her to survive in the past. But too much fire can lead to burn-out, with neither side benefiting.

In order to suppress terrorism, Israel imposed a barricade on Gaza. Unfortunately, this backfired and played into the hands of Hamas by creating anger and poverty among the Palestinians who were further radicalised.

Similarly, installing metal detectors on the Temple Mount will enflame rather than reduce further violence. There is a time to fight the good fight and there is a time for a diplomatic solution. After all, the current approach is not working.

Rather than being a loser, the ghetto Jew was one of the greatest survivors the world has known. He knew the military option would have been suicidal for a minority in those cruel times when the Church still demonised our people, and became a master negotiator instead.

In fact, the military option is what caused all the problems in the first place! Two thousand years ago most of our people were still living in the Holy Land.

The pesky Jews then decided to attack and expel the occupying Romans. Unfortunately, the Romans crushed the rebellion and destroyed the Great Temple instead. Many Hebrews were marched off in chains and sold as slaves in Europe. And so, this terrible 2 000 year exile began.

**Martin Zagnoev**  
**Johannesburg**

### WARM TRIBUTE PAID TO RABBI ISRAEL KAYE

I was on a visit to South Africa and had the privilege to accompany Rabbi Israel Kaye for one day of the three-day outing he organised to a resort outside Johannesburg. I would like to pay tribute to him. He invited 17 people for this event. He organised the accommodation, three meals a day, excursions, transport, etc. It was run like a well-oiled machine;

he always had a smile on his face and was always so humble. He ran around for days getting cash and food donated, so that the invitees did not have to take one cent out of their pockets.

May the Lord bless him and keep him.

**Bebe Feldman**  
**Israel**

### TRIBUTE PAID TO THE CHEV FOR ASSISTING WITH RELEASE OF BODY

We would like to pay tribute to, and commend the Johannesburg Chevrah Kadisha for the outstanding service it performs for the community. Its expertise is widely known, but recently we had experience of just how much it goes beyond what is expected to bring comfort to the bereaved and ease the burden of the mourners.

Our husband, father and brother, Mannie Sassen, passed away on Sunday evening, July 2. That an autopsy had to be performed was unavoidable, but because of the strike of the mortuary staff, the date of the release of the body could not be determined.

Between Steven Adler, David Weber and Phillip Kalmanowitz, who from the outset tried to hasten the release of the body, so much was done to explain to the mourners the delay and to arrange for the funeral to take place several hours later than scheduled, and to have the Mincha and Ma'ariv services conducted in the

ohel at the specified times.

We thank the Chev for helping us deal with the stress we were under and for managing to maintain dignity under the circumstances.

We would also like to commend and pay tribute to Dr W P de Beer, the staff of ICU and Ward C and the reception staff of Linksfield Clinic. At all times that he was in hospital, Mannie was treated with above all, professionalism, love, compassion and kindness, as were his family.

They were fully aware at all times of keeping us informed and went so much further than that "extra mile". He could not have had any better attention.

For that we will always be eternally grateful. Kol hakavod to all concerned.

**Hilary Sharon and Monty Sassen, Pam Mackenzie, Riva Portman and Donna Abramson**  
**Johannesburg**

### IF YOU HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE, WHY OBJECT TO METAL DETECTORS?

It just boggles the mind. In the not too distant past, when one man attempted to board a plane, while carrying a potential explosive in the heel of his shoe it resulted in massive inconvenience for millions of travellers having to submit to searches, X-rays, removal of shoes and belts and confiscation of any liquids greater than 100ml.

And yet, when Israelis set up metal detectors because three young Muslim terrorists murdered two soldiers on the Temple Mount, which is holy to Jews, Christians and Muslims, this results in an outbreak of violence of massive proportions.

If you have nothing to hide in not carrying weapons or bombs onto the environs of the Holy Temple Mount, then why object to metal detectors? As a matter of interest: Do the same Muslims riot when they have to submit to metal detectors at airports?

And of course, the Israelis are made out to be the aggressors for shooting the killers and for wanting to make the Temple Mount a secure place for all worshippers.

Par for the course - the Israelis are damned if they do and damned if they don't.

**Jack Miller, Johannesburg**

**X T R E M E**  
**COSMIC BOWLING**  
SINCE 1996  
**MARS BAR**

TELEPHONE: 011 887 2095/6  
**www.xtremebowling.co.za**  
Midways Mall, 280 Corlett Drive, Bramley,

# Sydenham spreads the Madiba love

JENNY MILLER

The parents and children of Sydenham Hebrew Pre-Primary School made and packed a record 674 sandwiches in 67 minutes on a freezing cold Friday morning last week, to commemorate Nelson Mandela's birthday on July 18.

Linda Twala (the "Mayor" of Alex) and his associates, collected the sandwiches along with toys, books and clothes, donated by the parents and children at the school and distributed them among the many needy children of Alexandra.



# These pre-loved toys will bring joy to kids in need



This year for Mandela Day, Sandton Sinai Primary School ran a collection of pre-loved toys, puzzles and sporting goods, which will be donated to Hospice. This project aims to instil a sense of care and responsibility to the greater community. Pictured above is Noa Sher (grade 2) with her donation.

# KDVP's new Foundation Block is up and ready

After several months of construction, the King David Primary School in Victory Park welcomed smiling faces to their new Foundation Block. The block was built to house the grades 1 and 2 classes, learning support and a fully functional computer laboratory.

These new resources have certainly added value on an aesthetic level as well as being educationally functional.

The school is grateful to the King David Schools' Foundation for making this dream a reality.



Matt Gilchrist enjoying the new computer laboratory.

# TA Primary gave their best on Mandela Day

To mark Mandela Day, Torah Academy Primary School children collected money for the Union of Jewish Women's project "Bags for New Beginnings".

The grade 6 girls held a raffle where they raised R4 000 for a collection in memory of Hugo Palach, the Yeshiva College learner who was tragically killed recently.

On the last day of term, the school held a market day whereby each class raised funds towards the UJW project.



At their stall on market day were: Racheli Raff; Malki Frankel; teacher Jenny Lichtenstein; Zahara Lurie; Rivky Zwick; and Leah Bronstein.

# Hirsch Lyons girls entertain Alex tots

Learners of Hirsch Lyons Girls' High School, hosted the children from the Union of Jewish Women's Alexandra Aftercare for 67 minutes of fun, as their contribution to Mandela Day.

The children were collected from Alex by the Hirsch Lyons school bus, brought to the Girls' High School and were treated to a fun-filled morning. From hot chocolate to making delicious cupcakes and different activities, the children interacted and got to know each other.

### Friday (July 28)

Shalom Masorti Seniors Club meets on the last Friday of each month. Make new friends and have some light-hearted fun. Tea will be served, and there will be a selection of board games and cards. Cindy Kree will speak on "Work in Prisons". Time: 14:30 for 15:00. (Donation of R15 will be appreciated). Contact: Esther (011) 485-5619, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday mornings.

### Sunday (July 30)

Dvori Blumenau, educational psychologist/psychotherapist and international ego state therapist and hypnotherapist speaks on "Inner Peace in the Modern World". It is a women-only event. Venue: 9 Kenilworth Street, Sydenham. Time: 19:30. Cost: R100 per session (incl light refreshments). Contact: Nadine.nade@mmweb.co.za / sms 082-891-8252 or dvoriblum@gmail.com www.jhbnorthpsychologist.co.za

Jewish Genealogical Society of SA in partnership with Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre, hosts an exploratory discussion with Jeff Kelly Lowenstein an investigative journalist and author from the US, who will uncover his journey "A

### Search for German Jewish Family Roots:

The Impact of Answers". Venue: HOD. Time: 19:30. Cost: R25 (incl tea and refreshments). RSVP: Hannah (011) 485-2188 or jgssa16@gmail.com

Second Innings ongoing Nechama - Growth From Grief Support Group, meets at Jossel Card Room, Ground Floor, Golden Acres. No need to book. Time: Tea from 09:30, group starts promptly at 10:00 - 11:30. Contact: Linda Fleishman (011) 532-9701.

### Monday (July 31)

UJW hosts David Lewis, executive director Corruption Watch, on "The Essential Need to Fight Corruption in SA". Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton. Time: 10:00. Donation: R40. Contact: UJW Office (011) 648-1053.

Chabad in Sandton starts its Tisha B'Av programme at Sandton Central Shul at 18:00. Reading of Eichah-Lamentations, followed by a special lecture series with Tracey Farber on "the Impact of the Holocaust on the Spiritual Beliefs of Survivors" including testimonials from survivors and video footage. Contact: Rabbi Ari Kievman at rak@chabad.org.za.



### Wednesday (August 2)

WIZO hosts "Pearls of Wisdom", a morning of humour, wisdom and truisms about our beloved kids with former South African/Australian teacher and author Denise Luboff. Hear her stories and share your own. Time: 10:00 – 12:00. Cost: R150. For bookings and venue details, contact: Zee 083-377-5644

### Thursday (August 3)

Hebrew speakers meeting takes place in Beyachad on the second floor from 11:00 – 12:00. Calling all fluent Hebrew speakers to hear interesting Hebrew lectures on economy, history, technology, family memories, etc. Information: Abigail (011) 640-2376 or 072-432-9198.

JWBS is hosting Anne Lapedus Brest, author of "Oy vey, my child is gay and an addict". Venue: Gerald Horwitz Lounge, Golden Acres. Time: 09:30 for 10:00. Cost: R120 (incl raffle and refreshments.)

## King David Junior, Linksfield School



Please join us for an information hour on the ABC's of what our special school can offer your child

**a** Academic Excellence

**b** Building Self-Esteem

**c** Caring Community

Date: Thursday 3 August 2017

Time: 8:00am

Venue: Junior School Hall, Linksfield



If you are interested in finding out about our school but cannot make the Open Day, please contact the school on 011 480 4718

## YALE locked into a Mandela Day effort



MERLE SAGER

Young Adults Learning and Earning (YALE), is an organisation that caters to the needs of Jewish adults unable, because of learning disabilities, to find employment in the open market or live independently.

YALE, which has a sheltered workshop in Sandringham and a residence in Rouxville, where these adults work and live with limited supervision, also did their bit for Mandela Day, in the spirit of ubuntu. It handed over five blankets and packets of lids and tags it had collected.

YALE has been part of Sweethearts Foundation for two years.

Sweethearts, the wheelchair foundation, collects plastic bottle tops and bread tags that get recycled. With the money received, they are able to purchase and supply wheelchairs to those unable to afford it. This gives the people "the gift of movement".

YALE is ready to collect for the next presentation.

## Historic inauguration service at Silverton Road Shul

MICHAEL GREENBAUM

Sunday 9 July was a historic night for the Durban United Hebrew Congregation. It was their inauguration service to officially open their new Silverton Road Shul.

The service was attended by more than 200 guests, including community members and guests from Johannesburg and Israel.

The evening began with a mincha service led by Rabbi Yitzchak Lebowitz and the shul choir. Dr Jonathan Beare and Stan Oshry were honoured with the opening of the Ark. Prayers for the State of Israel and the congregation were recited by Rabbi Pinchas Zekry, Rabbi Lebowitz and Rev Mark Friedman.

Rabbi Zekry gave the honour of affixing the mezuzot to the doorposts of the shul to DUHC President Alex Zingol and Graham Kluk of the Umhlanga Jewish Centre Synagogue. Before affixing the mezuzot, Dr Issy Fisher and Rev Brian Lurie recited "Mizmor Chanukat Ha'bayit" in English and Hebrew.

DUHC Chairman Maurice Sacher, recalled the process of the building of the new shul and paid tribute to Rabbi Zekry for his guidance and dedication through the process and to Stan Oshry and Mary Kluk for their outstanding design and construction. Stressing what a team effort it had been, he quoted Winston Churchill: "So much is owed by so many to so few."



Rabbi Zekry said the timing of special events always has a related significance. He compared the timing of the opening of the new shul to Parshat Balak, which contains the well-known verse: "How goodly are your tents, O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel."

He said the past seven years have seen the opening of two new synagogues, serving both central and Umhlanga congregants, complementing each other, in addition to "our magnificent Jewish day school at Umhlanga".

After the mincha service, the evening continued with a cocktail dinner in the Sacher Family Hall and on the terrace.

More news on our website [www.sajr.co.za](http://www.sajr.co.za)

## Teddy bears for little children to cuddle



OWN CORRESPONDENT

Mandela Day 2017 was a day of great excitement and big smiles as the Beit Emanuel Care committee handed handknitted teddy bears and beanies to about 250 excited children, to warm their heads and hearts.

The Care committee and Rabbi Sa'ar Shaked were accompanied by SAPPI Employee Wellness practitioners to Charlotte Maxeke Hospital in Johannesburg, where they visited the children in the Cystic Fibrosis Unit, and Renal and Oncology Units to distribute teddies. There were big smiles and joy all round.

The Beit Emanuel delegation then moved on to the Uthando Crèche, a project of Afrika Tikkun, based in Braamfontein. Here the little kids were delighted to receive teddies and there was much excitement as they swapped with each other and with the remaining few bears to get the colours they wanted.

The Ubuntu Bears project began with Mandela Day 2016 and in the past year some 1 200 teddies have been distributed.

- If you can contribute handknitted teddies, wool, knitting needles, or teddy stuffing, these would be very welcome. For further information contact the Beit Emanuel office.

## Ambassador gets involved in Mandela Day

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Israel's outgoing Ambassador to South Africa, Arthur Lenk and his wife Ruth have participated in Mandela Day every year over the last four years of their diplomatic sojourn in South Africa. They give of their time, intellect, skills and love towards the development of the most vulnerable in township communities of South Africa.

This year, the Lenks and the entire staff of the Israeli Embassy joined Afrika Tikkun at the Phuthaditjhaba Centre in Alexandra township to honour the legacy of Madiba.

They interacted and engaged in stimulating activities with the children who attend Afrika Tikkun's Early Childhood Development Programme.

They helped with packaging and distributing food parcels to 60 families identified as a result of certain socio-economic vulnerabilities, including unemployment.

Ruth Lenk hosted an art session with the six- and seven-year-olds. "I decided to do an art activity with the grade R class because from my experience, this is what this age likes to do and it offers a lot of creativity and development for the kids. I love Afrika Tikkun, I have been working with them for four years now and I have enjoyed every minute of it," she remarked.

Bridget, an Afrika Tikkun beneficiary, said: "We are thankful for this act of 'ubuntu'. As Nelson Mandela said, 'I dream of the realisation of the unity of Africa, whereby its leaders combine in their efforts to solve the problems of this continent'."

"I am so happy to spend my afternoon meeting children who are smart and exciting, loving and ready to play. It is such an incredible opportunity," said Deputy Ambassador Ayellet Black.



## Herzlia Dafna launches global fundraising campaign

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town's Herzlia Dafna Pre-Primary School provides the small Jewish community of Milnerton and surrounding area with a high-quality Jewish education. Dafna faces possible closure due to the economic pressures of rising operational costs and low enrolments.

In order to ensure that the school remains open beyond 2018, the school, supported by United Herzlia Schools, Herzlia Foundation Trust and Dafna Community Forum, have launched a global

fundraising initiative. The crowdfunding platform is Youcaring.com and can be found on the link: <http://www.youcaring.com/herzliadafna>.

The money raised from this campaign will be used to pay running costs. In addition, a portion of the proceeds will go towards the school's marketing budget in 2017/18 to ensure future enrolments and promote ongoing sustainability.

The goal is to raise R500 000 by the end of the school's financial year in December 2017. This will allow the school to secure its immediate future.

Herzlia Dafna has been servicing the Milnerton community for over 50 years. It is an intimate, warm, embracing and inclusive school, where every child counts. It offers a relaxed and homely atmosphere where both children and parents can explore, discover and learn together.

The school caters for children in playgroup (18 months) to grade R (six years old) with an enriching, educational and loving Jewish environment. The younger children receive an informal programme within a structured environment, while the older groups are offered a more formal, rich, creative,

stimulating and exciting experience.

Morning care, aftercare and holiday schools run throughout the year, providing relief for working parents. A vital part of the Herzlia Dafna philosophy is to reach out and support socio-economically under-resourced communities within the society.

The school's crowdfunding campaign is supported by The Herzlia Foundation Trust whose vision it is to ensure that no Jewish child is denied a Jewish education for genuine financial reasons. This is achieved through the creation of a sustainable endowment.

# Terror victims' dignity: Should bloody pictures go viral?



## TAKING ISSUE

Geoff Sifrin

What's in a picture? The violence at Jerusalem's Temple Mount and the terrorist attack in the West Bank settlement of Halamish on Friday, raises questions about how much blood and gore should the general public see through photographs when civilians are killed.

The morning after the Halamish attack - in which Yosef Salomon and his two adult children were stabbed to death by a Palestinian with a knife during Shabbat dinner - the IDF released photographs of their kitchen floor, drenched edge to edge in thick blood. Another picture showed the attacker lying face down on the bloody floor.

An Israeli official posted it on Twitter, captioned: "This is the terrorist lying on the floor... full of the blood of three innocent family members..."

Arguments for and against such pictures' release are many-sided. In this case, there was some discomfort in official circles and among ordinary Israelis.

A major humanitarian consideration is preserving the dignity and privacy of victims and family. From a policy viewpoint, Israel also wants to avoid creating an image of Israelis and Jews as "victims". An Israeli official quoted this week in a national paper, referred to the famous Holocaust-era Warsaw Ghetto photograph of a Jewish boy with his hands up, watched by a German soldier: "[Pictures of Jews being humiliated] makes our enemies happy, and demoralises us."

People arguing that such pictures evoke sympathy for Israel and discredit the terrorists' cause are only partially correct, since myriad pictures are also published by Palestinians of their victims of Israeli attacks; it depends who is seeing them, and from what perspective. For some, the attackers are terrorists; for others, heroic martyrs.

Dramatic war photographs have sometimes had major effects on public perception of a conflict. Think of the

famous Pulitzer Prize-winning picture of a nine-year-old Vietnamese girl running naked and screaming down a road in June 1972 after being burned by a South Vietnamese napalm attack during the Vietnam War. The war's moral imperative was never the same after that.

Or the picture in September 2015 of a three-year-old Syrian boy's miserable body washed up on a Turkish beach, becoming a symbol of the refugee crisis and the world's ignoring of Syrian atrocities in which 400 000 have died in the six-year war, many of them civilians. The photograph went viral, shifting some attitudes towards migrants.

In South Africa, the image during the 1976 Soweto uprising by photojournalist Sam Nzima of the dying, bloodied 13-year-old Hector Pieterse, shot by apartheid security forces, was published worldwide and became an emblem of the anti-apartheid struggle.

Later, South Africa's social problems shot to the headlines in May 2008 through the image of 35-year-old Mozambican Ernesto Alfabeto Nhamuave being set on fire in a village street during xenophobic attacks on foreigners by locals, causing an uproar about the society's moral values.

After a terrorist attack in Israel, the IDF is often in charge of the site, with a say on what images are released. But it cannot control photojournalists working for global media, or civilians' pictures taken on smartphones and tweeted out to the world.

Newspaper editors are themselves caught in a dilemma. They cannot publish only sanitised images giving no sense of the horror. Yet, they cannot fill their pages with gory pictures which will make readers recoil. The balance is difficult to find.

In the Halamish case, the IDF had control of the scene, which was in a fenced-off West Bank settlement. Arguably, the violation of the family's dignity with images of the Salomons' bloody kitchen floor, could have outweighed any positive result of their publication.

Yet, in the emotions of the moment, one can also understand the rage which led to the opposite decision.

• Read Geoff Sifrin's regular columns on his blog [sifrintakingissue.wordpress.com](http://sifrintakingissue.wordpress.com)

A column of the Chevrah Kadisha

## Wisdom and courage



**ChevrahKadisha**  
AT THE HEART OF COMMUNITY WELFARE  
**Partners in Chesed**  
**Michael Sieff**

Like a Google map, the closer you zoom in, the more detail you get about places you would not have known were there - places that are enriching, educational and inspiring.

I attend the Sandringham Gardens Shul regularly in the early mornings and am always struck

by the warmth and culture of this micro-world within the larger complex, which is itself a micro-world within a much larger community, and city, and... ad infinitum.

One of our famous sages taught: "Who is wise? He who learns from everyone." I have found that there is much to learn from those who attend this small minyan on the main Chev campus.

The congregation is a mix of people from Sandringham Gardens, Golden Acres and the Lodge, as well as a sprinkling of people from the community who may have yartzheit and need to say kaddish, or who have another reason to daven there.

Characteristic of the respect that older people place on punctuality, prayers dependably begin promptly at 07:00 and our Rabbi Jonathan Fox ensures that services are conducted in a consistent and respectful manner.

But more than that, the revelation apparent in keeping company with older

generations, is how much they have to teach us, if we are willing to learn.

It is an honour and privilege when they share snippets of their life experiences, invariably littered with a deep understanding of the human condition. It is even enlightening simply to observe the way they conduct themselves, without necessarily exchanging words.

Some are frail and have difficulty navigating their way to shul with walkers and wheelchairs. Others are remarkably sprightly at advanced ages and I find myself wanting to know their secret. Whatever their situation, there is a dignity, a sense of purpose and a determination to their attendance at shul - as though they understand the inherent spirituality and value of prayer on a deeper level than most of us.

It is likely that they do, for they appreciate much about life that younger people don't. Or don't yet.

Watching them, I am filled with admiration. These are generations who have lived, triumphed, and experienced loss. Each person is an entire world, each story unique and irreplaceable. To show up and be counted, demonstrates a deep level of faith and belief that, on its own, provides a most valuable lesson.

Their collective and individual courage seems equalled only by their wisdom. On every visit I am enriched.

The community is welcome to join us for davening.

May our partnership continue to thrive [feedback@jhbchev.co.za](mailto:feedback@jhbchev.co.za)

*This column is paid for by the Chevrah Kadisha*



**Offering you the most comprehensive range of steel products and value added processing services in Africa**

- Aluminium
- Blanking
- Bright Bar
- Castigated Beams
- Cellular Beams
- Cold Form Sections
- Cold Saw Cutting
- Conveyance Pipe
- Corrugated Roofing
- Drilling
- Expanded Metal
- Fencing Products
- Flame Cutting
- Flanges
- Fluid Control Systems
- Freestock
- Galvanized Sheets
- Galvanized Tubing
- Grating
- Guillotining
- Harveytiles
- Heat Treatment Services
- High Strength Steels
- Hollow Bar
- IFR Roofing
- Laboratory Services
- Laser Cutting
- Laser Cut Tubing
- Lipped Channels
- Open Sections
- Palisade Fencing
- Pipe Fittings
- Plasma Cutting
- Plates
- Plate Bending & Rolling
- Pre-coated Sheets
- Pressure Vessel Steels
- Profile Sections
- Purfins
- Rails
- Reinforcing
- Roofing Solutions
- Sheets
- Slitting
- Special Steels
- Stainless Steels
- Stretcher Leveling
- Structural Steels
- Technical Consultancy
- Tool Steels
- Tubing
- Valves & Actuators
- Wear Resistant Steels
- Zincolume Roof Sheets



Like us on MACSTEEL Service Centres SA (Pty) Ltd

[www.macsteel.co.za](http://www.macsteel.co.za)



**MACSTEEL Africa's leading steel supplier**

**Granite City**  
kitchen tops & vanities



**We are specialist manufacturers and installers of granite kitchen tops, vanities, staircases, windowsills, flooring and much more, since 1988.**

**We are the largest supplier of Rustenburg granite kitchen tops to the market**

**direct to the public at a wholesale price of R790.00**

**+ VAT per L/M INSTALLED**

**\*JUST ARRIVED\***

Pure White Glass Stone kitchen tops exclusive to us. Maintenance Free, Toughened with a LIFETIME GUARANTEE at R2200.00 + VAT per L/M INSTALLED

011 786 3565/8/9 • [sales@granitecity.co.za](mailto:sales@granitecity.co.za) • 083 269 6040

# KosherWorld

TRULY KOSHER

## Good Food... Great Savings

Offers valid till **2 August '17** or while stocks last



**I&J HAKE FILLETS**  
**49<sup>99</sup>**  
400g



**OK SUNFLOWER COOKING OIL**  
**39<sup>99</sup>**  
2L



**NATURES GARDEN MIX VEGETABLES**  
**25<sup>99</sup>**  
1kg

**NESCAFÉ CLASSIC**  
**74<sup>99</sup>**  
200g



**PLUS MANY MORE SPECIALS IN-STORE**



**GENUINE FOODS ASSTD YOGHURTS**  
**17<sup>99</sup>**  
250g



**RHODES FRUIT COCKTAIL**  
**18<sup>49</sup>**  
410g



**REFRESHHH DIET COLA**  
**10<sup>99</sup>**  
2L



**SAUCE-A-LICIOUS SHMALTZ**  
**22<sup>49</sup>**  
250g



**SALAD FARM ASSTD SALADS**  
**29<sup>99</sup>**  
250g each



**TOMER WHOLE LYCHEES**  
**47<sup>99</sup>**  
567g



**DE LA VI SALTED HERRING**  
**35<sup>99</sup>**  
350g



**IMANA ASSTD SOYA MINCE**  
**21<sup>49</sup>**  
400g each

## Joffe won't back down despite R1,3 million 'settlement'



Graeme Joffe supporting the Shabbos Project.

JACK MILNER

As far as the courts, South Africa Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC) and Hollard Insurance are concerned, Graeme Joffe has settled with the sporting body for R1,3 million.

However, according to Joffe there is no settlement, certainly not on his side.

Last week Hollard Insurance, who is providing insurance cover for Joffe, proposed a settlement whereby Joffe would pay SASCOC R1,3 million. SASCOC agreed to the terms of the offer.

The "war" between them goes back a number of years and in July 2013 SASCOC filed a defamation claim against the sports journalist. They claimed that a number of articles posted online by Joffe and some of his tweets concerning the organisation and the directors, were "unjustified and defamatory".

Two years later Joffe responded, but rather than provide proof of his articles and tweets, he put out a list of technical objections, 131 of them, to SASCOC's claim.

The court dismissed all of them, with costs. At the time, High Court Judge J Francis said he found it "rather disturbing that the defendant having admitted that the particulars of claim have all been pleaded following the usual precedents for pleading defamation actions, still persisted with the exceptions".

Judge Francis added that "this is clearly a waste of court time and resources. The exceptions raised by the defendant are the worst form of nitpicking that I have come across in my 13 years on the bench".

Many experts see this settlement as a clear indication that Joffe's allegations and tirade

against SASCOC could not be substantiated.

However, now in the US, Joffe says Hollard Insurance settled, but he had not, and the fight would go on.

He put out a statement in reaction to the settlement. His aim was to "set the record straight after all the factually incorrect and misleading media reports which were mostly copied and pasted from a SASCOC press release and the SASCOC website".

"For the record: I did not settle with SASCOC, I did not pay them one cent and there was no apology or retraction. I will never ever apologise for telling the truth!

"Everything I have reported on was factually correct and the truth will all one day prevail. SASCOC is a totally corrupt organisation!

"Hollard Insurance took a business decision to settle with SASCOC which I was vehemently opposed to."

He also had a go at Primedia, claiming they did their best to discredit him after he exposed Primedia Sport in a kickback scandal for a SA Rugby commercial contract renewal.

"And they haven't been able to answer any of my tough questions about LeadSA and how they benefit financially from all the sports parades and airport welcomes and send-offs for SA Olympic teams."

To show that life in the Joffe household has not changed and that SASCOC was not off the hook, he tweeted on Wednesday: "A week in SA sport: SASCOC in fighting/CEO sex scandal, ASA selection debacle, SSA shambles, Cycling financial crisis & CSA/Gupta expose!"

In his favour, all of these items have appeared in other newspapers, websites or periodicals, so nobody can lay the blame at his door.

## Giro d'Italia: Jerusalem, Rome as bookends

JACK MILNER

In a major coup for Israel, the 2018 Giro d'Italia will start in Jerusalem and become the first Grand Tour to begin outside of Europe.

The announcement should come next month in Israel after Chris Froome and the WorldTour peloton finished racing the Tour de France - which Froome won again.

The plan is for a Giro big start based around the Holy City of Jerusalem. After a possible time trial to kick off the race on May 5, it would continue with two road stages, one to the south, and one possibly ending in Tel Aviv.

RCS Sport organised a Jerusalem sportive ride in 2013 with an estimated 1 500 cyclists, so they have the connections and experience. They had previously organised their big starts as far afield as Belfast and Herning in Denmark, but not the Italian tour, nor any grand tour gone outside of Europe for the start.

Even if the Giro restarts in the south of Italy, the

caravan would face a six-hour flight from Tel Aviv. As with recent editions of the Giro d'Italia, an extra travel rest day is expected to soften the journey.

RCS Sport cycling director Mauro Vegni explained that previous experience had laid the groundwork for such a trip.

"Now, we are able to duplicate it and it's not as hard, so I'm not worried about 2018," Vegni said. "I can confront anything, also far away from Italy's borders."

The money will come from Israel, who is pushing hard to grow its tourism sector. It would need an estimated R180 million budget, with around R56 million going directly to the organisers for the hosting rights.

The tour is planning an ending nearly as big as the Jerusalem beginning. RCS wants to put the riders on the Freccia Rossa high-speed train from the Alps to finish in the capital city of Rome on May 27.

The plan is to have the two religious capitals bookend the 2018 Giro.