Jewish Report

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Contact: Mandy Lipman 021 557 7560 Email: admin@sinaiacademy.co.za Suggested Donation: R180 p/p Address: 15 Curlewis Rd, Blouberg Rise, Bloubergrant, 7441









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For any queries: marion@clarewynshul.co.za Adults R120, students R80, children R40 Address: Claremont, Cape Town, South Africa







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De Wetshof





SHABBOS AT THE ZIEGLER'S | DINNER 23 OCT 2015 | 11:00 AM

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SHABBOS EXPERIENCE | DUHC 23/24 OCT 2015

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Contact: duhc@iafrica.com Cost: Adults R150/ Kids R75 Address: 75 Silverton Rd, Durban, 4001













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Contact: Rabbi Gruzd (011) 453-0988 Address: 43 Sixth Avenue, Edenvale, 1609











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SHABBOS EXPERIENCE | 23/24 OCT 2015

Friday night and Shabbat services at Elphin Lodge conducted by Ari and Paige Lewis. Chabad Lyndhurst will be lending us a Torah, Chumashim and Siddurim. A brocha will be held and we hope to have residents and their families from Elphin Lodge, Inyoni Creek, Tarentaal & Thornhill Manor at the services. Contact: Len Segal & Phyllis Phillips

Tel: 072 2523773 Email: sholens@mweb.co.za







Emmarentia

LUNCH | EMMARENTIA SHUL | 24 OCT 2015

Join us for a communal Shabbos lunch at Emmarentia Shul. Contact: Wendy 011 646 6138

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Fourways

SHABBOS EXPERIENCE | CHABAD FOURWAYS 23/24 OCT 2015

Join us for a family Shabbaton at Shumba Valley Lodge

Contact: Rabbi Dovi Rabin Tel: 011 465 3781









Glenhazel

LUNCH | OHR SOMAYACH GLENHAZEL 24 OCT 2015

Join us for a communal Shabbos day lunch. Contact: Rabbi Abrahamson 011 887 1321 Address: 10 Kingswood Rd, Johannesburg, 2192



Glenhazel

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Join us for a Friday night street dinner for residents of Chilton Road.

Contact: Suzanne Sackstein Tel: 082 771 4226







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STREET DINNER | 23 OCT 2015

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Contact: Sheema Tel: 082 774 9180











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Tel: 011 640 7561













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Contact: Patricia Lindenberg 082 468 3550 Email: pgo@qmedia.co.za

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Lyndhurst

DINNER | CHABAD LYNDHURST | 23 OCT 2015

Join us for a communal Friday night dinner with Chabad of Lyndhurst Contact: Pnina Spinner 073 029 4341 Address: 133 Morkel Rd, Lyndhurst, 2192











Lyndhurst

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Milnerton

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Contact: Janine 021 552 4285 Address: 88 Hatfield Street, Cape Town, 8000





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SHABBOS DAY | NORTHCLIFF SHUL

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Information: info@theShabbosproject.com Address: Norwood Mall



Goldblatt retrospective now on in Page 15

Jewish Report

India-Israel relationship booming



India's Home Minister Rajnath Singh, (pictured here with Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu at a meeting in Jerusalem last week) held discussions with Israel to strengthen India's "very warm" relations with the Jewish state. Welcoming Singh, Netanyahu said: "Indians and Israelis share the combination of ingenuity and continuity." The Home Minister, who was in the country for his first bilateral visit, earlier tweeted: "India and Israel share very warm and cordial bilateral relations. We look forward to strengthen it further." Singh started his trip by visiting holy sites in Jerusalem's Old City. He then left for a helicopter tour of the Jordan Valley and Israel's northern and southern region, accompanied by Israel's National Security Adviser Yossi Cohen. "India is a very important ally for us and we view the Home Minister's visit as very significant," a senior Israeli official said. See page 4

Russell Gaddin community leader par excellence, passes on

Gaddin passed away in Israel last week, aged 77, after a long illness. He held an array of lay leadership positions in Jewish communal affairs, inter alia as chairman of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies and Board of Jewish Education.



SAJBD, SAZF vow to expose Hamas' true identity to **Zuma and ANC**

The communal bodies vowed to expose the distortion and lies of Hamas' to govt and engage with Pres Zuma and the ANC, "to bring these facts to their attention". In a statement they expressed outrage over Hamas' visit to SA.

Iran, says Kemp Israel's enemies instigated the

Nuclear arms: United

States has capitulated to

greatest, most enective slut against it in world history, Col Richard Kemp, OBE, said in Johannesburg. The Arabs adopted this strategy because they could not destroy Israel conventionally.

ME instability: My enemy's enemy is my friend

Russian warplanes' aerial raids in Syria add to the already complex dynamics of the civil war there Vladimir Putin remains a firm supporter of Syrian Pres Bashar al-Assad and has a Mediterranean port in that country. Russia has sold many weapons to Syria.

Ernest Leibowitz integrity, honesty, fairness

Leibowitz, a founder and chairman of the Rabbi Cvril Harris Community Centre, passed away at the age of 76. He was a pillar of the community, a source of inspiration, wisdom, fairness and diplomacy, says Hazel Cohen of the RCHCC.

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Russell Gaddin - community leader par excellence, passes on

DAVID SAKS

Russell Gaddin, who passed away in Israel last week after a long illness, at the age of 77, held several of the most senior lay leadership positions in South African Jewish communal affairs during nearly four decades of service to the community.

He was chairman of the SA Board of Jewish Education from 1987-1992, during which time he was involved in a vital debenture campaign to rescue the Jewish day schools from a serious financial crisis. Thereafter he served two terms as president of the organisation. He was also much involved in the work of the IUA-UCF, both on a national and provincial basis, including as chairman of its Johannesburg campaign.

Gaddin's firmly held position was that every Jewish family, regardless of its financial status, had to contribute what he termed its "Jewish tax" to the IUA-UCF. His communal service career culminated in his being elected national chairman of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies in August 1999. He was re-elected for a second term in 2001 and thereafter served two terms as national president (2003 - 2007).

SAJBD Chairman Mary Kluk described Gaddin as someone who was "passionately committed to the safety and wellbeing of the South African Jewish community, and who was just as whole-hearted in his commitment to Israel and the Zionist cause".

There were few areas of Jewish communal

activity in which he was not meaningfully involved, she said, whether in the realm of Jewish education, fundraising, advocacy for Israel, combating anti-Semitism, safety and security, the Jewish media or representing the community in the political and interna-

Russell Gaddin was born in Johannesburg on February 8, 1938. After matriculating at Highlands North High School, he established his own business, WIN Corporation, in which connection he subsequently served for several years as chairman of the Jewellery and Watch Distributors Association.

As a senior office bearer within the SAJBD, Gaddin was intimately involved in various important communal initiatives. This included the cost-cutting rationalisation process that led to the establishment of the Beyachad Jewish communal centre in 2000 and, in 1998, the founding of the SA Jewish Report.

Prior to becoming national chairman, he was chairman of the SAJBD Gauteng Council and also of the SAJBD Country Communities subcommittee.

Gaddin's two terms as SAJBD chairman coincided with the collapse of the Oslo peace process and the outbreak of the so-called "Second Intifada" in September 2000. In the face of an ever-escalating media and political onslaught against Israel, he emerged as a forthright, sometimes pugnacious defender of the Jewish state, one who did not hesitate to slam the government for statements he



When it appeared that the Maccabi Games in Israel might be cancelled because of the fraught security situation, he strongly opposed what he saw as an abandonment of the Israeli people at the time when the solidarity of the Jewish world was most needed, and he was at the forefront of those who successfully lobbied for the event to go

Gaddin is survived by his lifelong partner, Battie, whom he met and married in Israel, and four children.

regarded as being unduly biased.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to discuss mutual regional challenges, including the current outbreak of Palestinian terror attacks, the Syrian civil war, and Iran's growing support of terror groups around the Middle East.

JERUSALEM - The US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

Staff, Marine Gen Joe Dunford, on Sunday met with

World News in Brief

'Cut off the Jews'

JERUSALEM - The Islamic State terror group on Sun-

day released a new video focusing on the wave of

Palestinian terrorism in Israel and tensions surround-

ing Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, urging a more "ag-

with explosive devices, tear them to shreds. Cut off

the Jews' heads," an Islamic State operative asserts

in the video. The six-minute video features several

scenes where terrorist attacks have taken place over

the past few weeks, offers a short history of the Al-

Aqsa Mosque, and claims the compound is under

Jewish "occupation" and that Arab leaders are "not

The video also features various Islamic State op-

eratives declaring they will soon arrive in Jerusalem

to "help our Palestinian brothers slaughter the Jews".

threat to Israel in July, in which one of its top operatives in Syria vowed to "destroy Israel". The video also

delivered a threat to "uproot Hamas and all secular

US Joint Chiefs of Staff

chairman meets Bibi

The Islamic State released a video making a direct

doing enough to liberate" the mosque.

[Palestinian] factions". (JNS.org)

"Fight the Jews any way you can. Terrorise them

heads,' IS says

gressive jihad against the Jews".

"There's no shortage of challenges, and I think there's common agreement that we have to stop this aggression in the region, but specifically the aggression that is aimed at Israel," Netanyahu said during the meeting, the Associated Press reported.

"There's a lot to talk about - how to bolster our common security interests and Israel's ability to defend itself, by itself, against these and other threats."

"I'm confident that the solution to those challenges is our co-operation, and that's what I'm committed to," Dunford told Netanyahu. (JNS.org)

Shabbat Times

Parshat Lech Lecha October 23 / 10 Cheshvan October 24 / 11 Cheshvan

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Jewish Report

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IT'S NOT JUST AN AIRLINE, IT'S ISRAEL

Parsha

Leaving home - for good



Parshat Lech Lecha

Rabbi Yossy Goldman Sydenham/Highlands North Shul

The story is told of an encounter between two famous rabbis of yesteryear - Rabbi Elijah, the famed "Gaon" (prodigious scholar) of Vilna, and Rabbi YaakovKrantz, known as the "Maggid" (preacher) of Dubne.

Apparently the Maggid of Dubne once visited Vilna and went to pay a courtesy call on the great Gaon. The Gaon asked the Maggid to preach to him, as was his specialty. "Give me mussar (words of rebuke). Chastise me," said the Gaon. "G-d forbid that I should have the chutzpah to chastise the great Gaon of Vilna," replied the Magid, quite horrified at the suggestion. "No matter, that is your forte and I want to hear mussar from you," insisted the Gaon.

So the Dubner Maggid thought a while and then most reluctantly acceded to the wishes of his illustrious host. Said the Maggid: "Is it a great achievement to be a Gaon sitting in Vilna in your little secluded kloiz (small study hall)? Go out into the world, mix with the people, and then let us see what kind of Gaon you will be."

Indeed, it is much easier to be scholarly and pious in a sequestered ghetto than it is outside in a world that is often oblivious, or even hostile, to Torah and its values.

This, in fact, was more or less the test of Abraham in this week's Parsha. "Go from your land, from your birthplace, from your father's house, to the land I will show you." And it was there - far from his natural environment and comfort zones - that Abraham accomplished his divine mission.

He spread the truth of the One G-d to a pagan world and, in the process, his own name and reputation was established for eternity. It was only after leaving home that Abraham became the founding father of the Jewish people.

Hundred years ago, an entire generation of Yiddish-speaking, Torah-observant Jews migrated from Europe. They came to America to escape pogroms and persecution. With blood, sweat and tears they raised themselves from rags to riches and soon came to personify the American dream - an amazing and inspiring success story.

But the fact is that, for the most part, as their businesses succeeded their religious lives failed. Unquestionably, Judaism took a severe body blow. Most were unable to sustain their Old World values in New World America. The transition from shtetl to suburbia proved too formidable and children and grandchildren grew up ignorant of, and alienated from, their own sacred traditions.

Today, we see this phenomenon playing out on a lesser scale when families emigrate or move

from city to city. Displaced from their spiritual support systems, they flounder. The bulk of their efforts are directed at just resettling and reorganising their lives. Putting religious infrastructures in place often comes last - at great cost in the long run.

On a more subtle level, a similar test of conscience faces us when we take our annual holidays. Away from home and our habitual norms of behaviour, we are challenged to maintain the code of conduct we are committed to all year long.

It's like the story of the shadchan (matchmaker) who suggested a young lady to a fellow and absolutely raved about her. After their first date, the fellow calls up the shadchan and gives him a piece of his mind. "How dare you introduce me to such a girl, didn't you know she limps!" Quite unflustered, the shadchan retorts, "But, what's the problem; it's only when she walks."

It is when we walk away from our comfortable spiritual cocoons of home and community into the wider society that we may find ourselves limping somewhat, losing our Jewish equilibrium. It is then that our faith, our values, our morals and beliefs are truly challenged.

May G-d help that the children of Abraham will emulate their forefather, who left his land and remained strong in faith, going on to achieve remarkable success, both spiritually and materi-

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SAJBD and SAZF vow to expose Hamas' true identity to Zuma and the ANC





The SA Jewish Board of Deputies and SA Zionist Federation have vowed to "expose the distortions and lies of Hamas" to government and to engage with President Zuma and the ANC "to bring these facts to their attention".

In a statement to the Jewish community, co-signed by Mary Kluk, SAJBD chairman and Ben Swartz, SAZF chairman, they address the Jewish outrage over the visit to South Africa by terror organisation, Hamas, as guests of the ANC.

"The current visit of a Hamas Central Committee delegation has understandably created much anger and concern in the Jewish community.

"The Hamas delegation is here at the invitation of the ANC, and has also met with President Jacob Zuma. The ANC has signed a letter of intent, with the intention of building a long-term relationship.

"In the coming days the delegation will have a range of meetings with the ANC, SACP and Cosatu. During these meetings, they are likely to continue to portray themselves as a liberation struggle, similar to that of the ANC, while at the same time portraying Israel as a tyrannical nation that purposefully targets innocent women and children.

"The manipulation of facts is particularly distressing in light of the current wave of terrorism plaguing Israel. During these past few weeks of deadly violence in Israel, Hamas has enthusiastically endorsed the cold-blooded murder of Jewish civilians and instigated dozens of lethal attacks against them. Hamas has also congratulated those who have carried

out barbarous attacks on Israeli citizens.

"The core ideology of Hamas is underpinned by a rabid hatred of the Jewish people. According to its twisted world view, Jews are depicted as a treacherous, underhanded, manipulative and destructive element in society, and of being guilty of the worst calamities to have befallen humankind. It stands to reason that Hamas does not support the creation of an independent Palestinian state co-existing in peace alongside Israel. It seeks the destruction of the Jewish state.

"The SAJBD and SAZF will be engaging closely with President Zuma and the ANC to bring these facts to their attention. We will seek to explain the blatant racism and anti-Semitism of Hamas, expose the distortion and lies of Hamas and its warped portrayal of Israel, as well as the difference between terrorism (as represented by Hamas) versus the right to self-defence (as practised by Israel).

"While we recognise the ANC's willingness to meet all parties in this conflict with the aim of bringing about peace, we will explain how Hamas' core principles are in direct opposition to the ANC's values as expressed in the Freedom Charter and the principles on which our democracy is based.

"We have met with the parliamentary chairman of the International Relations Portfolio Committee, and we will continue to engage on this important matter.

"A statement was issued to the media yesterday [Tuesday] condemning this visit..."

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World News in Brief



Hamas calls for escalation to bomb and vehicle attacks

JERUSALEM - On Monday, the Gaza-ruling terror group Hamas instructed its members and affiliate groups in the West Bank to undertake suicide bomb and vehicle attacks against Israelis, particularly in the West Bank and Jerusalem.

Israeli officials told Yedioth Ahronoth that Hamas terrorists could imminently attempt such attacks. Hamas leader Mahmoud al-Zahar called for greater arming of the current wave of terror attacks, a trend some have started to refer to as the "Third Intifada". Meanwhile, Hamas media outlets called for more vehicular terror attacks against Israelis. (JNS.org)

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Cape Jewish Board election was free and fair

SUZANNE BELLING

There are often queries as to the process of the Cape SA Jewish Board of Deputies elections, which are twofold and tend to be confusing.

This was cleared to the SA Jewish Report by chairman Eric Marx, following the organisation's biennial conference at the Albow Centre, the Gardens, on Sunday.

"Our elections are totally democratic," Marx emphasised.

He explained the two part voting system and that it comprised a public ballot or postal vote for three new people chosen from five candidates, who had been "properly nominated" and voting at the actual conference for a further 12 members, who were democratically nominated and voted for by delegates from about 80 community organisations, including shuls and women's groups.

There were also automatic office-bearers on the Cape Council, by virtue of their positions, namely chairman of the SA Union of Jewish Students, the Union of Jewish Women, Bnoth Zion Wizo and the Cape Zionist Federation.

The keynote address on "Combating Modern-Day Anti-Semitism" was delivered by Ido Daniel, director: Israeli Students Combating Anti-Semitism (ISCA).

The first session was on Defining the Challenge: Racism, Xenophobia and Anti-Semitism, with Professor David Bilchitz as the moderator. Speakers were Karam Singh and Professor Milton Shain.

The conference was divided into breakaway groups, with various facilitators.

The new council comprises Lester Hoffman; Michael Donen; Rael Kaimowitz; Viv Anstey; Jonathan Silke; Glen Heneck; Beverley May; John Zieff; Li Boiskin; Greg Flash; Rabbi Nissen Goldman; David King; Caryn Gootkin; Michael Barr; and Stanley Zive. The last three candidates were chosen by postal vote.

The executive will be elected at the first council meeting of the Cape Board.

Progressives adamant they won't meet with Hamas

It has been reported in the media that Hamas representatives are to meet with a "Progressive Jewish group" during their visit to South Africa.

"We have no knowledge of the source of this notice and have no dealings or intentions of meeting with Hamas," the SA Union of Progressive Judaism and SA Association of Progressive Rabbis, said in a joint statement.

"We call on Hamas to distance themselves from anti-Semitism and terror and to remove from their Charter the aim of killing Jews," The statement read.

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Indian president strengthens alliance with Israel



BRADLEY MARTIN/JNS.ORG JERUSALEM

In the first-ever official visit by an Indian head of state to Israel, President Pranab Mukherjee arrived in Jerusalem this week to discuss a wide range of issues including the negotiation of an extensive free-trade agreement, bilateral co-operation in agricultural and other technologies, and expanded counter-terrorism co-ordination.

"India attaches high importance to its relationship with Israel, a relationship which has taken great strides in the last few years," said Mukherjee.

Israel President Reuven Rivlin described the visit as deepening "the friendship between our states in the fields of economy, science, medicine and agriculture".

Relations between India and Israel have recently undergone a major shift. In 1947, India voted against Israel joining the United Nations and did not establish official relations with the Jewish state until 1991. This was mainly out of concern over how this would affect India's diplomatic relations with Muslim countries, as well as India itself hosting "the world's second-largest Muslim population in raw numbers", according to a 2013 report by the Pew Research Centre

Nevertheless, this recent development demonstrates how ties between the two countries have expanded considerably since then. The most recent example of a warming of relations between the countries came when India decided to abstain from the UN Human Rights Council vote condemning Israel during the 2014 Gaza conflict. This was a significant policy change, since India for decades was a leading force for nations that automatically voted against Israel in all international forums.

At the same time, the Press Trust of India recently quoted Mukherjee as saying: "India's traditional support to the Palestinian cause remains steadfast and unwavering while we pursue strong relations with Israel. Our bilateral relations [with Israel] are independent of our relations with Palestine."

During Mukherjee's visit, India and Israel signed a double taxation avoidance pact as well as a number of accords promoting cultural and technological exchange between the two nations.

Mukherjee and his delegation reserved 70 rooms in Jerusalem's King David Hotel and another 30 rooms in the nearby Dan Panorama. Celebrity chef Reena Pushkarna was hired by the King David Hotel to prepare Indian dishes for the delegation and some 300 members of Israel's Indian community.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu shares a very warm relationship with Indian Prime Minister Narenda Modi, referring to him as his friend multiple times when hosting Mukherjee in Israel's Knesset.

The prime ministers earlier this year congratulated one another on their respective electoral victories, with Modi making a point of doing so in Hebrew and Netanyahu expressing his good wishes in Hindi. Mukherjee extended an invitation to Netanyahu to become the second Israeli prime minister to visit India, the first being former Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who visited India in 2003.

Further illustrating the growing ties between the two countries, Israel is India's second-largest arms supplier after Russia. But relations are not limited to military ties and a mutual commitment to fight terrorism. Vijeta Uniyal, founder of Indian Friends of Israel, described how Israel's commitment to developing the desert "extends to the Thar Desert, Gangetic Plain and Wetlands of Bengal".

Bilateral trade between Israel and India grew from \$200 million in 1992 to \$4,39 billion in 2013, with both countries importing and exporting precious stones, metals, machinery, minerals, plastics, chemical products, textiles, agricultural products, and transport equipment.

Ties between the two countries are expected to strengthen considerably as a result of Mukherjee's visit, signifying the solidification of a strong alliance between India and Israel.

Bradley Martin is a fellow for the Salomon Centre for American Jewish Thought and research assistant for the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research.

World News in Brief

PM Benjamin Netanyahu invited to visit India

JERUSALEM - Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with visiting Indian President Pranab Mukherjee in Jerusalem last week Thursday. According to a Prime Minister's Office statement, Netanyahu and Mukherjee discussed bilateral co-operation in the fields of security, technology, innovation, and agriculture.

Other topics of discussion included counterterrorism and advanced policing methods. Netanyahu and Mukherjee agreed to bolster bilateral co-operation between Israel and India, including ministerial visits. Mukherjee also invited Netanyahu to make an official visit to India. Netanyahu thanked Mukherjee for the invitation and said he would be happy to accept it. (JNS.org)

23 – 30 October 2015 **News** SA JEWISH REPORT **5**

Nuclear arms: United States has capitulated to Iran, says Kemp

MICHAEL BELLING

Israel's enemies had instigated the greatest, longest and most effective slur campaign against it in the history of the world, Colonel Richard Kemp, OBE, told a packed audience at the HOD hall in Orchards in Johannesburg at a meeting arranged by the SA Zionist Federation and South African Friends of Israel.

The Arabs had adopted this sophisticated strategy because they knew they could not destroy the Jewish state by military means and many in the outside world had come to believe what they claimed.

Kemp, former commander of the British forces in Afghanistan and strong supporter of Israel, spoke on Israel, ISIS and the future of the world.

The slur strategy had resulted in Israel being accused by the UN Human Rights Commission of war crimes in its recent conflicts, "but there was no army in the world that took the care and extensive steps" Israel did to avoid civilian casualties.

Very few if any army had the same morality and care with regard to civilians.

"There was not a shred of military expertise on the Human Rights Commission," Kemp said.

Double standards were applied to everything Israel did in the military sphere, illustrated by the muted response to the recent American bombing of a hospital in Afghanistan.

The July Iran deal effectively permitted Iran to become a nuclear armed state. The United States had negotiated from a position of strength, but had capitulated to Iran, Kemp said. The \$150 billion to be paid to Iran would aid that country's imperial ambitions.

"For at least the next 18 months Iran has a free hand because (US President Barack) Obama has invested so much political capital to achieve the agreement. He has given them everything they demanded."

Kemp said the Russian involvement in Syria might be the greatest game changer in many



Colonel Richard Kemp speaking out in support of Israel.

years. It had constrained what Israel and the United States could do in there.

The Islamic State "represents a great threat, not just to the region, but to the entire world," Kemp stressed.

"It controls territory, infrastructure and resources and may get the capability to launch significant attacks on the West."

ISIS had to be destroyed, but the West had only paid lip service to this.

The attacks in Israel now were a difficult situation that was hard to control.

"How do you stop one person with a knife or rock?"

Kemp termed US Secretary of State John Kerry's attributing the violence to settlement activity "despicable". It had nothing to do with settlement activity, but was a continuation of violence going back to before 1948.

"The Palestinians do not want an independent state. They don't want a two-state solution. If they did, why do they consistently refuse to make any concessions for peace, refuse offers of peace, indoctrinate their people (against Israel and the Jews)?

"They want it all. They want the destruction of the Jewish state."

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Jobbik to Judaism: Szegedi's route

MOIRA SCHNEIDER, CAPE TOWN

Csanád Szegedi describes the day he found out, at the age of 30, that he was Jewish, "the most traumatic and probably the worst day of my life".

As guest speaker at the annual Aish Hatorah gala dinner held at the Greenside Hall last week, Szegedi related how he, a 20-year-old university student in 2003, had co-founded the far-right, anti-Semitic, Jobbik Party; by 2012 it had grown to be the second largest in Hungary. It was at this time that a political opponent claimed to have proof that Szegedi was in fact Jewish.

"I sat down with my maternal grandmother to ascertain whether this was true. "My grandmother (an Auschwitz survivor) admitted she was once Jewish, but she had closed that chapter after the Shoah and was not Jewish anymore.



Csanád Szegedi, co-founder of the far-right, anti-Semitic Jobbik Party in Hungary, who was guest speaker at the Aish Hatorah gala dinner, with his colleague and translator, Jonathan

"She said my maternal grandfather was also Jewish and had worked in a forced labour camp during the Second World War."

The discovery caused personal turmoil, jarring with the internalised image he had of the Jewish people.

"I cannot be Jewish," he said he thought to himself. "I don't have a big enough nose, a hunchback and two bags of money under my arms!"

His attempt to meet with a local rabbi was met with disbelief. "He thought I was joking, that it was candid camera," Szegedi recalls.

"I thought he was going to throw me out. Much worse - he told me I should sit down and learn!"

With his wife, Szegedi was invited to synagogue. Such was the tension there that the rabbi had to call a meeting, where Szegedi faced some aggressive questioning from the community.

"Despite all this, I thought I have no other way to choose but to walk the Jewish way." He was "pushed" into becoming kosher and observant, including not driving on the Sabbath.

Amidst much emotional upheaval, the main issue engaging his mind was how to make up for "all the bad deeds" in his previous life. The Av Beth Din in Budapest suggested he go around to schools, college campuses and universities explaining the dangers of anti-Semitism, as well as address Jewish communities, which has kept him "extremely busy" for the past 18 months.

"What makes someone anti-Semitic?" he ponders. "I had never met a Jewish person in my life. I come from a poor family. Anti-Semitism cannot be rational - it stems from frustration and depression. I did not meet the kind of monsters portrayed in anti-Semitic circles," he says of his integration into the Jewish community.



What should we tell our children?



TAKING ISSUE

Geoff Sifrin

What should an Israeli mother tell her young child as he leaves for school on the bus or his bicycle? The first priority is to keep him from harm. Should the message be: "Have a good day at school, and stay far away from Arabs!"

Amidst the recent spate of stabbings, shootings and vehicular attacks by Palestinians on random Israelis all over the country, this question is paramount for many parents.

Telling him to stay away from all Arabs is a racist way to raise a child. Yet in the climate of justifiable alarm pervading the Israeli streets after the attacks on innocent people, how else can a parent protect him? Not send him to school? That is not an option; the society must continue to function, despite terrorism.

White South Africans who lived under apartheid remember the Afrikaans word "swartgevaar" - meaning "the black menace" - used by the government to portray all black people as potentially dangerous - to dehumanise them into a homogenous mass with evil intentions and thus promote its ideology of keeping the races apart.

It would be a tragedy for an Israeli version of the "swartgevaar" mentality to take root; for Israeli Jews of every stripe to be afraid of Arab civilians walking in the street, or working in restaurants, shops or other places, because of the actions of some murderous extremists. And afraid to let their children mix with Arabs, in case one should pull out a knife.

But sadly, that's the way things are moving because of the threatening practical reality. The dilemma is excruciating: How can parents protect their kids without turning them into racists? Arabs are not a homogeneous mass: They are individuals and families, the vast majority wanting the same things as Israelis - to raise families, get an education, work for a decent living, and so on.

An Israeli columnist described her dilemma: "With 13-year-olds stabbed on their bikes and random attacks occurring on buses and sidewalks, Israeli parents agonise over keeping kids safe without scaring them to death... balancing messages of fear in the air, with calls to treat their fellow citizens who are Arabs, with respect in these tense times."

One school principal, in an attempt to combat racism, sent a personal request to parents to tell their children to greet Arab cleaners working in the school and look them in the eye. Educationally, he said, it was important for the children to be taught not to fear them; for the workers, it was important they felt comfortable in the school.

But in response to a traumatised public, some schools have moved the other way, citing security concerns. The cities of Tel Aviv, Rehovot and Hod Hasharon announced on their websites and in e-mails to residents that maintenance workers and cleaners - many of whom are Arabs - would temporarily not be allowed into schools; they avoided using the word "Arab", but the intention was clear.

Another city, Modiin-Maccabim-Reut, said "minority members" would be excluded from working in its schools.

Outside the controlled school environment, in streets and buses, some parents may simply tell their kids Arabs are dangerous and to avoid them. But for liberal-minded parents, achieving self-protection without fostering racism is the challenge.

Arabs are feeling and acting on Israelis' fear and accompanying hostility. For example, sources in the Association of Renovation Contractors, who renovate Israeli apartments, say most Palestinians employed by their members haven't come to work recently - some 80 per cent of the 37 000 Palestinian workers were absent at the start of the week.

Customers don't want to let Arabs into their apartments through anxiety, especially apartments in which the people continue living during renovation.

In this atmosphere, the recent demonstration in Jerusalem of hundreds of Jews and Arabs calling for peaceful coexistence, may seem irrelevant, even naïve to some.

But it is critical not to surrender to the terrorists' aims.

During South Africa's "swartgevaar" period, many organisations and individuals on both sides doggedly refused to succumb to the "them-versus-us" mindset, and year after year kept trying to cross the boundaries between black and white, to get to know each other. The bridges they built helped keep hope alive.

It takes courage in the prevailing climate to fight for Arab-Jewish coexistence. But the alternative - circling the wagons and retreating into an ethnic, religious or racial laager - is the worst option.

ME instability: My enemy's enemy is my friend

STEVEN GRUZD

At the end of September, Russian warplanes began aerial bombing raids in Syria, adding to the already complex dynamics of the Syrian civil war, which has raged unabated since 2011. What prompted this intervention? What does it say about Russia's place in the world? And what does this mean for Israel?

Historically, Russian-Syrian ties have been strong. Damascus has been Moscow's long-time ally since the 1950s. Russia has a Mediterranean port at Tarsus in Syria, its last outside the former Soviet Union.

Russian President Vladimir Putin (pictured) has remained a firm supporter of Syria's Bashar al-Assad, and Moscow has sold copious amounts of weapons to Damascus over the decades. Putin has also protected Assad in the UN Security Council, vetoing two Western-backed resolutions on Syria in 2011 and 2013.

These came in the aftermath of Resolution 1973, which in 2011 authorised a "no-fly zone" over Libya, ultimately causing "regime change" through the violent overthrow of Muammar Qaddafi. Russia was determined not to allow this in Syria.

Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, chief executive of the South African Institute of International Affairs, said: "Since 2011, the narrative from the US and Europe has been that there can be no solution in Syria if Assad remains an actor. But Russia opposes regime change, especially for its friends."

On all fronts, Assad's regime was losing ground, and he directly requested Putin's intervention, ostensibly to assist with the battle against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), which controls vast swathes of territory in Syria (and neighbouring Iraq).

Russia has portrayed its military intervention as that of a responsible global citizen, helping to rid the world of jihadists, and the only legitimate external involvement consented to by the Syrian government.

While Russia said its aircraft were targeting ISIL, it was in fact also bombing a wide array of Assad's enemies, including the al-Nusra Front and the Free Syrian Army.

The US has been conducting bombing raids against ISIL for over a year, and arming local rebels, with few visible results. Sidiropoulos asserts that Russian intervention also "allows Moscow to highlight the weakness and ineffectiveness of America's strategy in Syria".

It was Putin, not US President Barack Obama, who engineered the dismantling of Syria's chemical weapons after America failed to act when Syria used them against its own citizens.

Others see this as a chance for Moscow to display its military might for the cameras and combat its international isolation after annexing Crimea from Ukraine. If Assad falls, Russia stands to lose billions in arms contracts (Syria represents about 10 per cent of all its arms sales).

Russia is now flexing its muscles, trying to reassert itself as a great power after a retreat in the 1990s. It has been involved in several internal and external conflicts - putting down separatists in Chechnya in the 1990s and 2000s, a brief war with Georgia in 2008, and the Ukraine conflict in 2014 - 2015. Russia resents the expansion of Nato to Russia's borders with the inclusion of the Baltic States, and the growth of the European Union into Eastern Europe.

But is this another Cold War? Sidiropoulos doubts it. "Russia is economically weak from



sanctions after the annexation of Crimea and the low oil price. China, not Russia, is the major rising power globally. And we lack the dramatic clash of ideologies witnessed after the Second World War." But as a nuclear power with a UN Security Council veto and a formidable army, Russia remains a global player.

Larry Benjamin, lecturer in international relations at Wits, said: "Syria as a country has lost meaning. It's like a feudal jigsaw puzzle. But Moscow, Washington, Damascus and Jerusalem do all have a common enemy in ISIL." Conflicts sometimes make for strange bedfellows.

Russia has been a major arms supplier to Israel's arch enemy, Iran, and to Iran's clients Hezbollah and Hamas. However, in the complex world of contemporary global politics, Russia also retains strong and cordial ties with Israel. Israel is home to over a million Russian immigrants and Jewish oligarchs influence Russia's Israel policy.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited Putin in Moscow before the Russian sorties in Syria, to discuss the military situation (and agree to keep out of each other's way).

Although there is no formal peace treaty with Syria, its frontier with Israel has been relatively quiet since the 1973 Yom Kippur War. If Assad falls, the chaos that could replace him could destabilise the border with Syria and pose a significant threat to Israel.

Benjamin said: "Israel has been happy to let things happen in Syria. The conflict has kept Iran (and Hezbollah, with whom Israel fought a 30-day war in 2006) occupied in Syria and strained relations between Hamas and Iran. It is best for Israel if Assad stays.

"The expectation that the Arab Spring would usher in liberal democratic secular regimes, respecting human rights, has proven to be totally misplaced. On balance, oppressive secular dictatorships for Israel's neighbours are far preferable to radical Islamic ones. Israel fears that if Assad collapses, Jordan might be next, and that is a big nightmare for them. If Russia helps Assad survive, that suits Israel's interests."

With no solutions in Syria in sight, Israel's neighbourhood will remain extremely unstable. Russia's intervention is likely to further muddy the waters in this particular maelstrom.

Ongoing tensions between Israelis and Palestinians after weeks of terror attacks



Israeli border police guarding a checkpoint in the eastern Jerusalem neighbourhood of Jabel Mukaber, on October 15.

Disclaimer

The letters page is intended to provide an opportunity for a range of views on any given topic to be expressed. Opinions articulated in the letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, staff or directors of the Jewish Report.

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THERE ARE NO HALACHIC GROUNDS AGAINST PROSELYTISING

In his call for Jews to spread Judaism and actively seek converts, Colin Jantjies has absolutely hit the nail on the head. Allow me, if I may to quote a recent and most poignant Facebook post by Rabbi Asher Meza, an Orthodox rabbi whose organisation, Torah Judaism International (bejewish.org), promotes actively seeking converts.

Rabbi Meza writes: "I have to say it seems ridiculous that a religious Jew could EVER complain of the backlash they suffer from non-Jews (such as Muslims) practising their religion around them.

"When Jews have not lifted a finger or care in educating especially radical Muslims on a different better belief system, such as their own, Judaism...when there is no Halachic source that prohibits them from doing so but only baseless bigoted

"This is one of the main reasons there exists so much animosity towards Jews, because the outside world translates the religious Jewish indifference to anyone not born Jewish as an act of hostility. The way you combat Bad religion is with Good religion not No religion."

Agree or not agree with some of Rabbi Meza's characterisations, he makes excellent points countering the inertia against spreading Judaism, something there is no prohibition against

Though one might wonder if the powers that decide upon policy fear that they would end up having to convert large numbers of spiritually seeking poor people and thereby have to forgo the often exorbitant charges that these profiteers charge?

Could these be the same powers that refuse to do anything about the exorbitant costs of certain kosher products?

Jared Joel Sydenham, Johannesburg

'REFORM OF ISLAM ON A COMMUNIST INSTALMENT PLAN'

If there was a big difference in strategy between the ANC under Mandela, and Hamas under Khaled Meshaal, head of Hamas' political bureau, then it certainly showed at Gwede Mantashe's press conference [on the visit by a Hamas delegation].

Mandela understood that there was no possibility of winning a conventional war and that the armed struggle itself, was doomed. Instead of fighting for a one-party Marxist state, (or a unity government under a sovereign monarch), he came up with a Constitution and a Bill of Rights in which all South Africans, black and white, Jew and non-Jew, could live side-by-side.

This contrasts strongly with Meshaal and the Hamasist fantasy of a Jew-free Jerusalem.

Like Kemal Ataturk, who abolished the Ottoman caliphate and built a secular country called Turkey, Mandela abolished the Christian theocracy which had ruled South Africa under the National Party and introduced a secular Constitution.

The SA Bill of Rights includes freedom of religion (and freedom from religious rule). It contains 45 rights and freedoms missing in the Hamas Death Charter advocating the destruction of Israel in a "final battle against the Jews".

If Hamas had been in charge of the South African Struggle, then its leadership too, would have delivered belaboured speeches of reconciliation, but only involving the ANC, PAC and Azapo, while excluding the Afrikaner nation, Leaving out the other side unfortunately, is all part of a heroic religious battle.

"Al Quds (Jerusalem) is our right, our capital, and we will continue until we get rid of occupation," says Meshaal.

What about everyone else, those religions and sects whose capital Jerusalem also represents, in world history?

Listening to the Hamas spokesman on SABC, was like listening to a salesman offering a major "Reform of Islam on a Communist instalment plan", an end to "Segregation on the Temple Mount", coupled with an end to Israeli occupation of Al-Aqsa, and all in keeping with the vaguely Marxist language of Hamas.

In order to capture the jewel of Dar al-Islam from the Zionists, is

Meshaal willing to forgo general customs and traditions in a reform of Islam in the image of Hamas? All this perhaps, in order to negotiate favour with the country that is perceived to offer the gateway to paradise - South Africa and its readily available Freedom Struggle, offering moral immunity from such democratic questions, as how many rights does it take to make a real constitution, forgetting that Mandela himself, was a secular-

"Islam, doesn't need a Reformation, it needs an Enlightenment", says Maryam Nemazee writing in the Guardian. A critic of religious zealotry, Nemazee also perceives what is immediately apparent, both in the rhetoric of Hamas and the radicalism of ISIS.

ist and bipartisan, who supported a

two-state solution.

She says: "Islamism must be challenged by an Enlightenment, not a Reformation," but for this to happen, "the right to criticise religions and the religious right (including the Christian right, Buddhist right, Hindu right and Jewish right) is crucial, as is international solidarity and an unequivocal defence of migrant rights, secularism, equality

and citizenship".

Thus, while one may be moved into solidarity with the oppressed, it makes no sense if we do so while resurrecting the political ghosts of 1976, only to fail even further in our duties, in forgetting that national reconciliation only came about in South Africa via a negotiated settlement - ballots not bullets - certainly not a winner-takes-all victory of war and bloody mayhem.

Thus one may also add, it is crucial here, that we recognise the right to criticise, debate, and engage, what is rapidly becoming yet another conservative backwater in South African politics, the Marxists (and Marxism) of the Gwede Mantashes of

The empty Hamas rhetoric of those who brought us Marikana, Andries Tatane, and so many countless betrayals of Mandela's democratic dream, are surely empty political promises, made by today's ruling party elite in the name of ideology and human-made religion.

David Lewis Cape Town





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Ernest Leibowitz - integrity, honesty and fairness

STAFF REPORTER

Ernest Leibowitz (pictured), a founder and chairman of the Rabbi Cyril Harris Community Centre (see facing page), passed away on Shabbat in Johannesburg at the age

Hazel Cohen, of the RCHCC, described Leibowitz as a pillar of strength, a source of inspiration, wisdom, fairness and diplomacy.

"He was so proud that the dream he shared with Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris of a vibrant, active community centre had been realised."

Rabbi Dovid Hazdan, spiritual leader of the Great Park Shul, said at the funeral that Leibowitz's presence and involvement in the shul had been a game changer.

"Eighteen years ago it was difficult to envisage the potential of the Great Park Shul. It was a time of pessimism, resignation. It was the heyday of naysayers and prophets of doom in the South African Jewish community.

"He mustered every strength to see the Great Park project become reality," Rabbi Hazdan said.

Leibowitz had knocked on many doors of business leaders to invest in the project. He also conceived the idea of the community centre, which lay at the heart of the Great Park Shul and had been its chairman since its inception 18 years

Another example of Leibowitz's leadership and giving, was to the SA Associates of Ben-Gurion

University, where he served as a committee member and was closely involved in the huge contribution South African Jewry had made to that institution.

"He was a man of deep integrity, honesty and fairness," Rabbi Hazdan added. "He was a rare combination of formality, dignity, respect and warmth and embracing love."

Anthony Spitz, of London, Leibowitz's brother-in-law, said Leibowitz was "a very determined person with every project he undertook. He left no stone unturned to achieve what he wanted personally and for the community."

Spitz termed the RCHCC one of the jewels of Johannesburg Jewish life with social and cultural activi-

ties that could not be found elsewhere in the Jewish environment.

Leibowitz had been involved in Hippo Holdings, a listed trading and quarrying company, the forerunner of the ready-mix concrete industry in this country. The business also dealt with wholesale leather goods and blankets throughout the country. The company was eventually sold to Anglo Vaal.

Leibowitz spent some time in New York in the 1970s, where he also worked for a large cement business, before returning to South Africa in 1979.

Back in South Africa he became a senior executive for Leo Raphaely & Sons, before acquiring his own import and export company.

He is mourned by his partner



Brenda Lasersohn, his children Mark, David and Sandy, his sister and brother-in-law Shirley and Anthony Spitz and his seven grandchildren in South Africa and the United

News

Berland's followers beaten up when repainting Joseph's Tomb

Followers of Rabbi-on-the-run Rabbi Eliezer Berland, wanted in Israel on sexual abuse charges and back in hiding in South Africa, followed the rabbi's instructions, sent to his Yeshiva in Jerusalem, to whitewash over burns inflicted on Joseph's Tomb in Nablus last Friday in an act of vandalism by Palestinians.

But his followers did not co-ordinate with the IDF and five were arrested by Palestinian police, beaten and released into the custody of Israeli police. All 30 face charges.

After Joseph's Tomb suffered its worst vandalism in 15 years, an official delegation of activists, rabbis, and arson specialists, used the cover of darkness to visit the site last Sunday night.

Among the delegation was Sephardi Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Yosef. "'The nations came and desecrated your sanctuary'," said Rabbi Yosef, citing a verse from Psalms.

holy site in this way? We Jewish people protect their holy sites, their mosques and they, without shame, treat this holy site in this manner." Haaretz reported on Monday: "Rabbi Eliezer Berland from his hideout in South Africa, ordered his followers to repaint the tomb."

According to the paper Rabbi Berland's recording stated: "Everyone

"The heart cannot grasp the evil. What kind of people destroy a

should take pails of whitewash. Leave on Saturday night and be there at 2am... and repaint the tomb."

Joseph's Tomb is of specific importance to Berland's Shuvu Bonim community and Berland himself used to visit it periodically.

His followers, however, did not co-ordinate their entry with the Israel Defence Forces (IDF), and when they tried to enter the site, they were caught by the Palestinian police, according to Haaretz. The Berland disciples themselves, however, say they entered unhindered and were only detained when they left.

The IDF confirmed that Palestinian policemen arrested five of the Israelis and beat some of them before handing them over to the Israeli police.

Five years ago the PA last carried out renovations at the site (to repair damages caused when Palestinians torched it at the start of the Second Intifada in 2000).

Yossi of Shuvu Bonim said: "Let's not forget - the tzaddikim and holy sites are what protect the Land of Israel, not the government or the army. Without the bones of Yosef we wouldn't have been able to cross the sea and enter the land, and without his bones we would not be able to remain here. Our enemies realise this so they try to destroy

"When will the Jew begin to realise?" asks Yossi.





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Shabbos Project: together with Israel

SA CHIEF RABBI WARREN GOLDSTEIN

I am writing this from The Shabbos Project global call centre in Tel Aviv, where calls are being fielded in eight languages from 550 cities in 70 countries around the world.

During the last few days while in Israel for The Shabbos Project, I have been inspired to witness first-hand the remarkable heroism of the people of Israel in the face of so many assaults on innocent men, women and children.

Israelis go about their daily lives with determination and dignity in defiance of the violence. In this spirit it has been a privilege to see how so many Israelis are preparing for this year's Shabbos Project, preparing to host events in cities and open spaces in a declaration to the enemies of civilisation that the people of Israel will not be intimidated.

On Sunday, I met with the municipality of Ashkelon, who are planning to host more than 14 events for The Shabbos Project across the city. Their enthusiasm for the project is infectious and uplifting; from the south to the north of the country, where I met the brave men and women of the Ramat David Air Force Base, who are charged with protecting the skies over Israel.

The officers and personnel of the base are partners of The Shabbos Project and are preparing to welcome this coming Shabbos with a momentous

Kabbalat Shabbat and evening tisch.

In the midst of the national security crisis, even the Speaker of the Knesset, Yuli Edelstein, joined in a launch of the project from the Israeli parliament buildings. He spoke movingly of how his faith sustained him through his years of imprisonment in Soviet Russia, and how today at the centre of the turbulence of Israeli politics, Shabbos gives him so much strength and peace.

"Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them," G-d exhorted Joshua more than 3 300 years ago, as he was about to lead the Jewish people into the Land of Israel. Today the same message of courage calls to every Jew in Israel to summon the faith and fortitude to withstand the fiercest trials. As Jewish communities, from Montreal to Melbourne, from London to Los Angelos and from Antwerp to Rio prepare for this week's Shabbos Project, it is becoming increasingly clear that the Jewish people's answer to everything that stands against us, apart from the security measures being undertaken, is to strengthen ourselves through the Torah which defines us. Shabbat tells the story of a world created by G-d with compassion and love. It tells the story of a Creator who created every human being in His image; it tells the story of family togetherness, of Jewish history - born in liberation from Egyptian

slavery - and ultimately Jewish destiny. It is a vision for a better world for all.

Here in South Africa, the heartland of The Shabbos Project, as our magnificent community gathers, in greater numbers than ever before, to embrace the warmth and power of Shabbos - it is in the spirit of unity and solidarity with the people of Israel and indeed world Jewry. We draw strength from knowing who we are and where we come from. We draw strength in recognising what we are connected to to Hashem and to His Shabbos.

We draw strength in our commitment to the Jewish people and the Land of Israel, no matter what voices or organisations rise against it.

We draw strength and confidence, often in the face of great adversity directed at Israel by sectors of our society.

"Chazak chazak venitchazek" - "Be strong, be strong and let us take strength", are the words we declare together as we complete a book of the Torah. These words give us the clarity of purpose and the inspiration to achieve greatness both in times of pain and times of joy, in times of adversity and of triumph.

In the merit of the holiness of Shabbos and the beauty of Jewish unity, may we only know times of joy and triumph and see the fulfilment of the verse: "Hashem will grant His people strength; Hashem will bless His people with peace."

RCHCC 15 years on: Hazel looks back on a series of successes

MARGOT COHEN

As the Great Park Shul in Johannesburg was nearing completion in 2000, the late Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris commented that the spaces around the shul were conducive for a secular community centre for Jewish culture.

Those wise words resonated with soon-to-be retired English lecturer, Hazel Cohen, who had spent 26 years at Wits University,

She explains the establishment of the Rabbi Cyril Harris Community Centre which celebrates its 15th birthday: "It's a non-profit, section 21 organisation which belongs to the community. Located in the precinct of the shul, it forms a separate community. Patron-inchief was Rabbi Harris who passed away 10 years ago. Now Rabbi Dovid Hazdan, spiritual leader of the Great Park Shul is the patron of the RCHCC, along with a board of directors.

Probably the most impressive aspect of the community centre is the wide ranging area of interest offered to the public.

Lectures from politicians like Tony Leon, the late Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, legal eagles such as Albie Sachs, George Bizos, Arthur Chaskalson, to media celebs like Redi Thlabi and journalists like Paula Slier and Mandy Wiener, are just a few examples.

"Over the years we have kept

the memory of the Holocaust alive through lectures and films and continue to do so," says Cohen.

International speakers include Yehuda Bauer of Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, Steven Katz, director of the Eli Wiesel Centre in Boston and Dan Bahat, archaeologist of the City of Jerusalem.

Book events include talks by Mark Gevisser, Jonny Steinberg, Moeletsi Mbeki, Anthony Altbeker, Roger Cohen of the New York Times and well-known SA-born journalist Benjamin Pogrund.

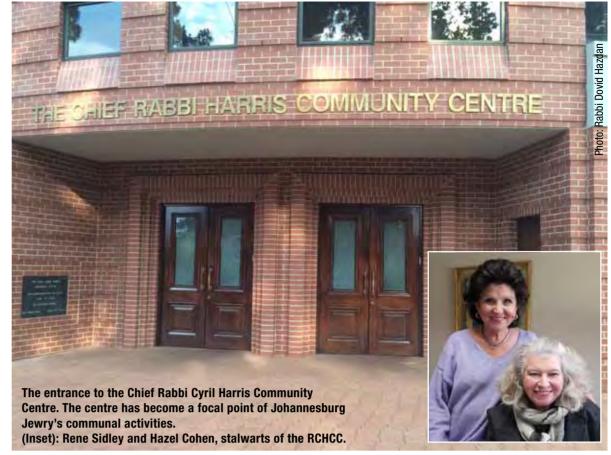
The offerings are diverse and include exhibitions of famous Jewish people, like political icon Helen Suzman, paleoanthropologist Professor Phillip Tobias, as well as an exhibition of Jewish Rugby Springboks.

The acclaimed "Memories of Muizenberg" exhibition has travelled to London, Australia and Canada.

The centre has often partnered with the SA Jewish Board of Deputies, the Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centre, the Israeli Embassy of SA, UCT's Kaplan Centre and the SA Jewish Museum in Cape Town.

"We certainly focus on Jewish culture in South Africa but there is an emphasis on Israeli culture through speakers and Israeli films. Films are often repeated in the afternoons for elderly members who prefer not to go out at night."

Broadway musicals - a Jewish



legacy, a documentary on Woody Allen, Stanley Kubrick and Frank Gehry, are just a few crowd pullers.

Cohen is most proud that "our reputation has spread internationally. We regularly get letters from abroad commending us on our programme."

So, how does she juggle being the director of the RCHCC with her duties as a bobba? "I do fit in lift schemes and help my granddaughters with their matric English," she admits.

Hardworking and motivated, her enthusiasm has not dimmed over the years.

In 2005 she was joined by Rene Sidley who oversees interesting art and photographic exhibitions.

The secret is to choose carefully, it seems. Many live musical events

like a Klezmer band and Tessa Ziegler's guitar recital as well as Santa's story with the Pelham sisters, are just a few of the popular happenings.

So, what is the way forward? More of the same, she says. Meetings, discussions, making new friends, stimulation, education and entertainment is the essence of this highly successful venture.

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Euphoria has subsided, now 'real work' on Homo naledi starts

SUZANNE BELLING

Acclaimed throughout South Africa and internationally, the fossils of Homo naledi, bade "farewell" to Maropeng's Cradle of Humankind on Sunday to be sent for further research to the University of the Witwatersrand, whose team was responsible for the discovery.

The "farewell" took the form of massive concert and picnic organised by the Department of Arts and Culture and the Gauteng Tourism Authority.

In a welcome coincidence, one of South Africa's most celebrated musicians, singers and song writers Johnny Clegg, was among the artists chosen to perform at the concert - incidentally he is also an anthropologist and a former lecturer at Wits.

It is estimated that over 40 000 people from all walks

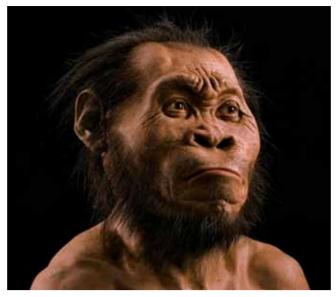
of life visited the exhibition, more visitors to Maropeng over several months.

The famed Professor Phillip Tobias "would have been over the moon" at the find of this new species of hominin, said Dr Bernard Levinson, a long-standing close friend of the late professor emeritus at Wits and world-acclaimed paleoanthropologist.

Levinson, renowned psychiatrist, said the find at the Cradle of Humankind was "the first time we had encountered another species who bury their dead and sealed them off, indicative of a more advanced culture".

Scientists had to break into the chamber; the bones were not just lying there, he said.

Levinson likened Tobias' home to walking into a cave. "There were so many mysteries, every surface was covered by books and manuscripts and work-in-progress and



this discovery was made after people had passed through the caves many times."

He called the discovery "a sort of magic. We are suddenly confronted by a culture which had a kind of reverence for its dead. This culture may have had some kind of methodology and belief where the dead were going - some

concept of death. It already shows a lot of sophistication.

"The archaeological world is waiting with bated breath for the puzzle to be put together and unravel some of these secrets, including goods they had buried with them to take into the new world."

Professor Barry Schoub,

professor emeritus of virology at Wits, welcomed the widely interpreted big find, but said there was still much to be answered.

"The inaccessibility of the cave begs the question how a relatively primitive hominin dragged corpses for burial in this kind of site rather than conventional burial practices of more advanced hominins including Homo sapiens

"They haven't dated it yet and this kind of key information is needed to interpret it fully. Paleo-artists are skilled at depicting the appearance from fossil remains. Hominins are distinct from the big apes."

Schoub said the find reinforced the view that human-kind originated from Africa and it would now appear that southern Africa was an even richer source of human ancestral fossil finds than East Africa.

The find of Homo naledi (naledi means "Star") by Professor Lee Berger, another famed Wits paleoanthropologist and his colleague John Hawks, has - as could be expected - aroused controversy in scientific circles.

Berger has strongly defended his find and conclusions amid some criticism of his classifying naledi as a new genus. Some scientists in the same field have also cast doubt on the "burial theory", maintaining that Homo naledi did not have the brain capacity to perform such a ritual.

Berger and his team of 60 scientists and associates, pieced together some 1 500 fossil fragments, making up 15 individuals, found in a remote cave.

Homo naledi stood about 1,5 metres high, with heads similar in shape to humans, but smaller.

Community

Waverley's Rabbi Nossel looks after body as well as soul

SUZANNE BELLING

The Waverley Hebrew Congregation has welcomed a home-grown product, Rabbi Dr David Nossel, as its spiritual leader - a return to the shul where he had his barmitzvah.

Healing both the body and soul, he leads the services in Waverley's main shul, while by day he practises medicine at the Chiawelo Clinic in Soweto.

This versatile rabbi/doctor has also written a book on Hebrew and another on marriage.

Former head prefect at King David Victory Park, he was brought up in a traditional home.

"I lived equidistant between the Parkwood and Oxford Synagogues and went to neither. My parents, Harvey Nossel, (of "Talking Law" at ChaiFM) and mother Iris, a speech therapist, ran a proud Jewish home.

"When I was at Wits medical school, my grandfather passed away and I accompanied my father to the daily minyanim when he was saying Kaddish."

He attended shiurim at medical school and was inspired by Rabbi Akiva Taitz, who now lives in London.

"I was drawn towards the religious Kollel in Yeoville, where a number of families adopted me for Shabbos meals. I became gung-ho about Yiddishkeit under Rabbi Boruch Grossnass."

After doing his internship at the Boksburg/Benoni Hospital, he went to Israel, studying at the Ateret Yisrael mainstream yeshiva, where he was mashgiach (spiritual dean) of outreach, under Rabbi Chaim Pinchas Scheinberg, "one of the gedolim" (leading rabbis of the generation).

"I didn't have formal halachic ordination. It was bestowed on me after two years of learning. It was a learning thing. I was given smicha in order to teach in the yeshiva."

Rabbi Nossel married Leanne Jacobson after "love at first arrangement" (it was a shidduch). They have eight children aged between 21 and seven.

Back in South Africa, how did he choose between medicine and the rabbinate?

"I threw up my credentials to Shamayim.



I said: 'Hashem, here is my BSc, here is my MBBCh, here is my CV as a mashgiach.'

"Hashem answered me in a most remarkable way. He guided me back into the shul where I had read my maftir as a boy, shaking like a leaf. Thirty-seven years later I was reading my maftir in the same shul where I first read it under Rabbi David Rogut."

Initially after his return to South Africa, he had problems with the Health Professions Council of South Africa with regard to regaining his licence after his five-year absence from medicine.

"It was the academic department which welcomed me and assisted me in getting my licence back and working in the clinic."

The Waverley campus comprises the main shul (upstairs) and the Beit Yisrael minyan downstairs, under Rabbi Gabi Bookatz.

"We are co-rabbis on the campus, which includes facilities for youth, children and a traditional approach to study."

Rabbi Nossel was appointed to Waverley Synagogue on a fulltime basis at the beginning of September, in time for the Yamim Noraim.

Waverley's Rabbi Nossel looks | Jewish Kimberley: full of history



SUZANNE BELLING

Kimberley, famed for its diamonds, has what is probably one of the most aesthetic gems of a synagogue, which houses the remnant of the Griqualand West Hebrew Congregation.

A remnant it may be, but the former congregants from this congregation maintain nostalgic ties with the shul through Adrian "Barney" Horwitz, chairman and CEO of the congregation, who, with Barry Katz, is responsible for taking all the Shabbat services throughout the year.

Services began in Kimberley in 1869, but the current synagogue was built in 1901/1902. The consecration of the shul was carried out during an elaborate ceremony 113 years ago.

Kimberley was the third Jewish community to be established in South Africa, the first being Cape Town and the second Port Elizabeth.

Despite its size, Kimberley produced no fewer than six Jewish mayors - William Sagar, Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Bernard Cohen, Gustav Bowman "Gus" Haberfeld, Lionel Jawno and Cecil Jack Susman between 1906 and 1967, some having served more than one term.

"The grand old man of South African Jewry" Colonel Sir David Harris, a director of De Beers and commander of the Kimberley Town Guard during the siege in 1900, was a member of parliament for Kimberley and Griqualand West in the old Cape Parliament and subsequently in the Union Parliament.

Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, who moved his residence from Kimberley in 1916, succeeded Sir David, retaining his parliamentary seat till 1938. There was a vicious rumour regarding the Oppenheimer family. It has been debunked by both Horwitz and Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft, country communities rabbi of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies, among others.

Sir Ernest's son, Harry, had been part of the congregation and in Kimberley, where the latter was born. It is documented that Harry had his bris in the shul. But, after the death of Harry's mother, May, Sir Ernest married out of the faith and the family converted to Christianity.

The story went that, as they no longer practised Judaism, Harry Oppenheimer requested that the plaque to commemorate his barmitzvah be removed and if necessary he would buy and rebuild the shul, minus the plaque.

In recent years there has been no rabbi of the congregation, which falls under Rabbi Silberhaft. He confirms that Harry had not attained barmitzvah age when the family moved and the story of the "plaque and the barmitzvah" was

"Harry Oppenheimer was 11 when he left Kimberley, so there was no barmitzvah for him there," Rabbi Silberhaft and Howitz concur.

Jews have been prominent in this mining town and, today, Horwitz, a practising attorney in Kimberley, is instrumental in arranging tours which include historical sites and memorials as the area was one of the strategic battle sites during the Anglo-Boer War of 1899 - 1902.

Rabbi Silberhaft believes the Kimberley Synagogue is the most beautiful in South Africa. Its Byzantine architecture was modelled on a shul in Venice. It was built on land donated by De Beers.



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The Power to Surprise

------ A column of the Chevrah Kadisha ------

ChevrahKadisha

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Chesed

Michael Sieff

Group CEO

Thank G-d it's Friday (TGIF)

Of course it isn't yet Friday as I prepare this column, but it most likely will be when you

Most of our lives are jampacked Monday to Friday with work, family, social and communal obligations. That's certainly true for me due, primarily, to the enormous scope and gravity of the Chev's responsibilities.

Yesterday I attended the funeral of the parent of a much-valued Chev volunteer. The cemetery provides an essential service when people are at their most vulnerable and the extremely dedicated

and hard-working team there deserves my acknowledgment.

Before the funeral a quick visit to the bank to change details on an account preceded a meeting with our chairman, Colin Datnow, to discuss a few governance and strategic issues. Afterwards a marketing planning session for the 2016 Enrich Your Life series was held - watch this space, it's going to be great!

Then there was a graduation ceremony for a group of our staff who had completed a SETA training course in management.

Taking a donor on a tour around the Sandringham Gardens campus to show him the latest refurbishments was rewarding, as was a feedback session with a group of residents

Touring of the Holy Sites

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For details, contact

from Golden Acres.

In the afternoon the son of a potential resident came in seeking advice on the best placement for his mom in one of our aged facilities and sharing his concerns regarding accommodation costs.

While the range of our commitments is varied, we are blessed to have professional teams drilling down into the intricate detail of our financial reporting and performing inspired and creative feats of fundraising to canvass the welfare funds we so desperately need.

Those teams who take care of the 800+ residents in Selwyn Segal, Arcadia, Our Parents Home and Sandringham Gardens, are focused on each individual's physical comfort and wellbeing, ensuring that medical care is provided when necessary, that satisfying meals are served and social and spiritual needs are met.

So TGIF - especially this week when all Chev facilities are joining hands with Jewish people the world over to celebrate the amazing Shabbos Project. On behalf of our staff, residents and beneficiaries I wish you all Shabbat Shalom on this special Shabbos of unity. I'll be so glad when it's finally here!

May our partnership continue to thrive.

Morning Torah Learning

Sunny

Read

feedback@thechev.org.za

This column is paid for by the Chevrah Kadisha More news on our website www.sajr.co.za

Thurs 5 - Weds 11 November 2015 Unforgettable Shabbos World Class Guest Speakers in the Old City

All Men Welcome!

Ideal for Fathers & Sons

WIZO encourages spreading the light

----- A column of WIZO South Africa

WIZO is proud to have been associated with the Chief Rabbi's Shabbos Project from its inception when we shared ideas on keeping a universal Shabbat together. From humble beginnings, under the leadership of the Chief Rabbi, this project has literally become universal.

Last year WIZO added a further dimension to the project when it introduced its #SPREADING-LIGHT campaign. Following this successful campaign, WIZO invites women around the world to join in this heart-warming initiative helping to spread the light with the Shabbos Project by lighting candles and reciting a

special prayer for peace in the home, Israel and the world at large.

Lighting Shabbat candles ushers light not only into our own lives and into our own homes, but into the entire world. By performing this beautiful mitzvah, WIZO members will contribute to disseminating the message of Am-Yisrael's unity, while spreading WIZO values and hope around the globe.

WIZO members have been sourcing, packing, labelling and distributing thousands of Shabbat candles to schools, shuls and to the Cape Town Great Challah Bake. WIZO societies have organised communal Shabbat dinners and communal Shabbat candlelighting.

So, get your community on board. Encourage them to take "Shabbat Self-





(before Shabbat) and send them to us for posting on the WIZO Facebook page and for sharing on other social media platforms. Email: wizospreadinglight@gmail. Following the Shabbos Project,

ies" while lighting their candles

WIZO will be hosting, together with the Zionist Federation, the renowned spokesperson Einat Wilf, with her fresh and powerful voice on the Middle East.

In light of the escalating violence surrounding and within Israel, this promises to be an address not to be missed. Einat Wilf, an independent and feminine voice and an expert in the Is-

raeli and Palestinian conflict, continuously addresses audiences around the world. As a senior fellow with the Jewish People Policy Institute, she has her finger constantly on the pulse of matters appertaining to Israel's position in the world and more importantly in the Middle East.

Wilf will be in Johannesburg on November 16 and 17 and in Cape Town on November 21, where she will be the keynote speaker at WIZO South Africa's 35th Triennial Conference. For bookings and venue details, please contact (011) 645-2515 / wizojhb@beyachad.co.za (for Johannesburg) or (021) 464-6753/7 / wizosa@ctjc.co.za (for Cape Town).

May the coming Shabbat bring light and relief to Israel and to all Jews around the

This column paid for by WIZO SA

------ A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies -----

Board intends exposing Hamas for what it is

Above Board

Mary Kluk

National Chairman

Last week, we received the sad news that Russell Gaddin, a stalwart leader in the Jewish community over nearly four decades, had passed away in Israel after a long illness. In addition to various other important leadership positions, Russell served as national chairman and president of the SAJBD in the years 1999 - 2007.

This period encompassed the difficult years following the collapse of the Oslo peace process and ensuing period of extended terrorist violence against Israel. Throughout this time Russell, as the representative spokesman for the community, was unyielding in his staunch, unequivocal support for Israel in an increasingly hostile environment. We extend our sincerest condolences to his wife,

Battie, and the extended Gaddin family during this sad time.

Earlier this week, along with National Director Wendy Kahn, I was in Cape Town for the SAJBD Cape Council Conference. Once again, this was characterised by a well-thought out programme, enthusiastic participation from the floor and a standard of debate, all showing how the SAJBD in Cape Town continues to play a pivotal role in terms of uniting the Jewish community and safeguarding its interests.

Kudos to all involved in putting together the event and in particular congratulations to Chairman Eric Marx. He stepped in as chairman at short notice and through his dedication and hard work successfully guided the Cape Board through a difficult transition phase.

I further congratulate the newly-elected members of the Cape Council and wish them all success in their forthcoming term of office.

The dominant story this week has been the visit



Hamas, in addition to be unambiguously committed to pursuing Israel's destruction through methods of violence and terrorism, espouses a rabid anti-Semitic ideology that differs little, if at all, from that of the

Theirs is a warped and evil world view that depicts Jews everywhere in the world as being an intrinsically malevolent people who seek through

treacherous plotting and behind-thescenes manipulation of events, to undermine the wellbeing of the rest of humanity.

The SAJBD will be engaging closely with President Zuma and the ANC to expose the true face of Hamas, beyond the standard liberationist rhetoric its employs to dupe people into thinking that their struggle is the same as that conducted by the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa.

In this regard, we will focus on showing how in its aims, ideology and tactics, Hamas is in every way the mirror image of the ANC and the democratic, non-racial and multi-cultural values that it has always espoused.

In addressing the destructive role Hamas plays in undermining any efforts towards peace in the region, we will make sure to detail how during these past few weeks of deadly violence in Israel, it has brazenly incited and endorsed the murderous attacks that have been carried out against Israeli citizens.

• Listen to Charisse Zeifert on Jewish Board Talk, 101.9 ChaiFM every Friday 12:00 - 13:00.

This column paid for by the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

Yeshiva College introduces its new student leadership

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Yeshiva College in Johannesburg has announced the school's new student leaders for 2015/2016

"We want to wish them and their families a hearty mazeltov," the school said in a media release. "We look forward to working with all the senior students in the school.





Sydenham shows solidarity with Israel

SUE BENJAMIN

The staff and children of Sydenham Hebrew Nursery School stand proudly in support of Israel during this very difficult time.

The Nursery School raised the Israeli flag and together with the children everyone sang Hatikvah and Oseh Shalom.

May our prayers be answered quickly in order to bring peace to our homeland. The Girls' High School prefects are: Nicola Fihrer; Natanya Feigin; Natanya Joseph; Jodi Kozinsk; Pnina Herring (head girl); Jessica Friedland (deputy head girl); Michal Lew; Dani Weinberg; and Gabi Farber.

The Boys' High School are - with Rabbi Ilan Raanan (Menahel Boys' High School); Melech Britz (deputy head boy); Yonatan Ova; Ethan Kahlberg; David Kahn (head boy); Joseph Greenstein; Liron Feigenbaum; Alex Feldman; and Denese Bloch (High School Principal).



Bandana Day is proudly supported at YC Primary

JOSEPH BEER YC PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Yeshiva College Primary School was a proud supporter of Bandana Day last week.

Bandana day was created in order to provide financial support for the Sunflower Fund, an organisation that supports people living with leukaemia and other blood disorders.

Kol hakavod to the Yeshiva kids for supporting this initiative!

Pictured are: Gavriel Levin; Gidon Ralph; Josh Sachs; Joseph Beer (principal); Liraz Cohen; Ariella Feinblum; and Yakira Zulberg.



Treat pets with love and care

SUZANNE BELLING

Angie Jennett of Sandton SPCA, last week taught three- and four-year-olds from Torah Academy Nursery School, the importance of kindness to animals. The little ones oohed and aahed at the live guinea pig Jennett brought to illustrate animals' needs and how to treat them gently. The SPCA, among other animal protection organisations, invites people to visit its centre, stating, "working hand-in-paw with our animal behaviourists, they assess the temperament of each animal to see what kind of owner will suit them best".

Says Rabbi Gidon Fox, of Pretoria Hebrew Congregation: "The Torah is replete with laws and instances highlighting the extent to which we are concerned about cruelty to animals."



THE JOHANNESBURG JEWISH MALE CHOIR X



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GUEST ARTIST

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Dani Hovsha is new SAUJS national chairman

ANT KATZ

The South African Union of Jewish Students (SAUJS) has elected a new national committee for the remainder of 2015 and 2016. Dani Hovsha, who has been on the committee twice previously (last year as the vice-chairman), is looking forward to the challenge which has been handed to her. She says she is ready to lead South Africa's Jewish students.

SAUJS' annual election took place on Sunday October 4, and, according to the newly-appointed national media officer, Aron Suttner, turned into "one of the most competitive elections in recent years".

Most of the positions were contested, he says "and the elections had an aura of excitement with all the possibilities for the coming year."

Hovsha said: "I have been on the national committee for two years. I'm ready to lead this committee, represent Jewish students and help grow the South African Jewish community." Hovsha's new team is united in this goal and excited to represent the Jewish students on campuses nationwide as well as support the SAUJS teams at Wits, UJ, Tuks and UCT.

"Our goal is to make Jewish students feel strong and represented as well as being valuable members to South African society as a whole," said Hovsha.

The new SAUJS committee is:
National chairman: Dani Hovsha
Vice-chairman: Aly Schneider
Treasurer - Marom Mishan
National director - Jaden Cramer
Community officer- Yudi Leibovitz
African affairs- Ruby Ichikowitz
Social officer- Tyler Epstein
Media officer- Aron Suttner
Political officer - Sebi Cohen
Special projects officer - Gabriel Zollmann
Women officer - Rachel Raff
Religious officer- Yair Katz
Zionist officer- Cassandra Mayekiso

What's on the web

Our biggest prize ever offered!

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Even better - our boffins will ensure that the time you spend training will give your body the most benefit and do the least damage. We've even ensured that should a family member overdo it, our prize-package includes home-based physiotherapy.

Make no mistake, this is no slap-dash competition. The prize-pool has been very carefully put together with a "dream team" of experts over a wide spectrum of disciplines, to ensure that one lucky family walks away with a "Personalised Family Fitness Programme" worth well over R20 000.

To ensure that the keenest readers have the best chance of winning, we will be allowing multiple entries with the only stipulation being that only one entry from any one e-mail address will be allowed per week.

Read much more on our website and start entering!

We also have a host of other exclusive, or expanded news items on the website: www.sajr.co.za

JWBS looks back on a highly successful poker fundraiser



The happy winners, "The Poker Pundits" of the JWBS Poker Evening.

OWN CORRESPONDENT

With funds decreasing every year, and an enormous amount of charity work still to be done, the Jewish Women's Benevolent Society (JWBS) decided to hold a bumper "Poker and Blackjack Evening" at the Wanderers Club last Sunday, as a fundraiser.

Professional croupiers and dealers were hired to man the tables - and to help the amateur gamblers. JWBS volunteers were everywhere to be seen.

The team called "Poker Pundits" won a 60" flatscreen television which they promptly donated back to charity.

MC for the evening was radio personality and motivational speaker Benita Levine, who said she was proud to be a member of the Jewish community.

"The JWBS ladies work tirelessly and devotedly. Your support is needed to give dignity and hope for those who rely on Jewish assistance. It is also wonderful because there has never been a greater need for the community to be working in unity as it is now. We must donate generously," she said.

The society, which is 122 years old, is constantly battling for funds. Chairman Judy Wainer said the

women had worked relentlessly to make the evening a success.

"The money raised from this event will go to the Chai Education Fund which is used to help scholars, special needs and tertiary education students who are in need.

"The money is distributed through the Chevrah Kadisha and last year, 143 learners, including special needs children, were assisted," she said.

The Society started when Johannesburg was still a dusty mining village during the Gold Rush. It was established in 1893 as the Jewish Ladies Society to alleviate human suffering.

In 1903 the organisation was renamed the Jewish Women's Benevolent Society and it grew rapidly. In 1904, a clothing depot was established, attached to the Fordsburg Synagogue and this depot is still operational today.

The organisation is now situated in the Sandringham Gardens complex where all the services are

Wainer said: "We trust our future endeavours will continue to be successful. We thank the generous sponsors, donors and players for their support."

Reason says: look for more diversity in senior management.

Instinct says: business growth will follow.

On Women's Day, the business issue of gender diversity at board and senior management level becomes a focus. With only 26% of senior management positions occupied by women in South Africa, how do businesses improve parity and yield the growth benefits associated with it? Contact us to help unlock your potential for growth.



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Jessie still full of joie de vivre at the age of 105

On October 15, Jessie Rosen, a resident of Golden Acres, turned 105. Jessie was born in Cape Town in 1910.

At her advanced age she still reads without glasses, has perfect hearing and speaks English and Afrikaans fluently, Golden Acres said in a media release.

She has 14 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren and remembers all of them, although they are scattered all over the world.

Jessie moved to Johannesburg when she married her first husband Abe Mosselson, the father of her

children. Very tragically Abe was killed when a drunk driver hit his car on Louis Botha Avenue in the city many years ago. Jessie's second husband was Mick Rosen who died some years ago.

She loves her beautiful home on the second floor of A block in Golden Acres and has lived there since

October 2000. She says she is so happy there and if she wants company she just leaves her door open and residents pop in, but if she is tired, she closes her door and has total privacy.

Jessie celebrated her 105th birthday at Golden Acres among family, friends and carers.

She is pictured with her daughter, Rohna Lubner and Myrna Jankelowitz, general manager of the facility.



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Goldblatt retrospective now on

STAFF REPORTER

Acclaimed photographer David Goldblatt is offering the public an opportunity to view his work at a retrospective exhibition entitled "The Pursuit of Values" at the Standard Bank Gallery in Johannesburg, which runs until December 5.

Curator Neil Dundas of the Goodman Gallery has taken the opportunity "to examine how Goldblatt's life's work has explored and expressed the values of South Africa and its people".

The exhibition includes photographs from Goldblatt's twin projects, "South Africa - The Structure of Things Then" and "Structures of Dominion and Democracy", as well as a number of images that have not previously been exhibited or published.

Goldblatt has been described as one of South Africa's most widely admired photographers and (although he dislikes being described this way), one of the country's most influential artists. He combines documentary photojournalism, socio-political commentary, narrative and historiography, in creating iconic portraits, vivid landscapes and gritty cityscapes.

During the past seven decades, Goldblatt has paid fastidious attention to South Africans: their individual stories and collective histories, their homes, their journeys, their workplaces.

While he never shied away from apartheid's grim realities - on the contrary, he captured these on film so they could become more widely known - he also sought and found moments of redemption, sympathy and even humour.

Over the last 20 years his camera has been trained on the paradoxes of development and decay, liberty and instability, opportunity and chaos in post-apartheid (or, as some have



David Goldblatt: a Transkei family in their shelter, KTC squatter camp.

described it, "neo-apartheid") South Africa.

Goldblatt does not consider himself a political activist, but has been active in politics nonetheless - whether as a critic of exploitative labour practices, a powerful documenter of systemic poverty and structural inequality, or, more recently, a protester against censorship and limitations on freedom of speech.

Born in Randfontein in 1930, he is the third son of Eli and Olga Goldblatt. He worked at his father's clothing store, while studying for a B Com degree at Wits and also developed his interest in photography.

After his father died, Goldblatt sold the business to pursue his dream of becoming a photographer.

He has been highly recognised nationally and internationally and has received numerous awards including the Jewish Achievers (Jewish Report) Art, Sport, Science and Culture Award in 2013.

He has many other prizes and awards to his credit; his work is housed in public collections; he features is select publications and he has had solo exhibitions in South Africa, Europe and the US.

What's On

Today, Friday (October 23)

- Candle-making at Bet David in Sandton at 17:00. Bet Menorah dinner after service. Contact: Beit Emanuel (011) 646-6170, Bet David (011) 783-7117, Bet Menorah (012) 460-7296; or Temple Israel Hillbrow (011) 642-1514).
- UZLC hosts Judy Jaye on "Cracking the Code of Personal Relationships". Venue: Our Parents Home, Orchards. Time: 12:45 - 14:00. Contact: Gloria (011) 485-4851 or 072-127-9421.

Saturday (October 24)

 Shabbat Shacharit services at all Progressive shuls from 09:30. Saturday afternoon. Make your own Tallit at Bet David 15:00. Yoga at 10:00. Bet David and at Beit Emanuel at 18:00. Contact: Beit Emanuel (011) 646-6170, Bet David (011) 783-7117, Bet Menorah (012) 460-7296; or Temple Israel Hillbrow (011) 642-1514).

Sunday (October 25)

- This entry last week inadvertently appeared in What's On under an incorrect October 18 dateline. We regret the error. The Tony Yoko Quartet Concert in aid of Hatzolah takes place at 15:00 at Inyoni Retirement Village, 200 Modderfontein Road, Lyndhurst. The band consists of Tony Yoko on drums, Andre Bence on keyboard, Nippy Cripwell on double bass and Pam Mortimer on sax and vocals. Information: Rollo Berman, tel (011) 786-8275or cell
- SAZF is holding a Jewish film festival. (The festival which started on October 4 continues until November 17). Cost: R50 per ticket. Today's movie: "Nicky 's Family" about Sir Nicholas Winton's rescue of 669 Czechoslovakian children from the threat of the Nazis. Venue: Beyachad. Time: 15:30. Booking essential. Contact miriam@sazf. org or tel (011) 645-2531 or maxine@beyachad.co.za, or tel (011) 645 2557. Have your ID number as well as

credit card details available upon booking.

- WIZO Etgar branch hosts a visit to three of Johannesburg's renowned landscaped gardens in the Bryanston area. Viewing of first garden is at 09:45. There will be a talk by landscaper Shirley Wallington and tea in the third garden. Tickets R200 per person. For bookings and information: Helen Maisels Trisk: 083-267-2607.
- Johannesburg Jewish Activities Club hosts "Jewzi Canoe and Braai" at Emmarentia Dam. Time: 11:00. Cost: R100 pp. A day of fun on the water with an expert canoe coach followed by a braai. Bring your own kosher meat. Booking: E-mail proof of payment to pay@jjac.co.za with "Jewzi Canoe" in the subject line. Payment reference: "Your name - Canoe". At Emmarentia turn right into parking lot by the green gate. If no parking inside, then
- Second Innings is hosting Louise Schweikerdt-Alker on "The Gift of Life - A Memorable Experience". Venue: The Gerald Horwitz Lounge, Golden Acres. Time: 10:00 for 10:30. Cost: R20 members, R30 visitors (incl tea and refreshments). Contact: Linda Fleishman (011) 532-9701.

Monday (October 26)

- Chabad's Jewish Seniors Club meets Monday Friday at 09:45 - 12:00 at Chabad Savoy. Lectures, lunch, transport and more. Information: Rabbi Ari Kievman (011) 440-6600.
- UJW hosts Helena Kriel, author and lecturer in creative writing at Spalding University, Kentucky, USA, on "Caring for Orphaned Baby Rhinos in Mpumalanga". Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton, Time: 09:30, Donation: R35. Contact: UJW office (011) 648-1053.
- IUA & UCF present the Johannesburg Jewish Male Choir's "30th Anniversary in Song" with guest artist Steven Leas, head cantor, Great Portland Street Synagogue, London.

He will be accompanied by a musical ensemble under the baton of musical director Evelyn Green.

Tuesday (October 27)

- WIZO Forum presents "Is Your Life Killing You?" with three stimulating speakers. Venue: Beyachad. Time 09:30. Cost: R40 (incl tea and refreshments). Contact: Nadine (011) 645-2515 / wizojhb@beyachad.com
- Johannesburg Jewish Activities Club hosts a movie night at Sandton City. Time: 19:00. Meet at bottom of escalator by the movies and decide what to see and book from there to see the movie of your preference. E-mail sheli@jjac.co.za with "'Movie 27 October" in the subject line and your name and cell number in the body of the e-mail
- UJW presents a video (audience choice). Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton. Time: 09:30. Donation: R20. Contact: UJW office (011) 648-1053.

Wednesday (October 28)

- Chabad JLI presents "We Only Live Once, What is the Best Way to Utilise the Time we Have Left? With Rabbi Ari Kievman. Venue: Shul in Sandton Central. Time: 19:15 - 20:45. Contact: (011) 440-6600.
- UJW hosts Dr Lorraine Chaskalson, former lecturer in the Dept of English at Wits, on "The Written Word Leaps Off the Page" - second in a series. Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton. Time: 09:30. Donation: R35. Contact: UJW office (011) 648-1053.

Friday (October 30)

 Shalom Masorti invites all seniors to its monthly tea from 14:30 to 16:30. Tea, board games, chat and listen to Andrew and Mickie Jacobs on their recent visit to India, in particular "Jewish India". Contact: Esther, (011) 485-5619 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday morning.

More news on our website www.sajr.co.za

Israeli windsurfer is not flying the flag

JACK MILNER

One might well be forgiven for believing that the art of deception is taught to all sportsmen and sportswomen. Today politics plays such a large part in a sportsman's life, especially if you are an Israeli, that one has to go to ridiculous lengths to be allowed to participate on the world

What you would be taught in deception school is to ensure you have more than one passport and then be given a bag with many pockets, so you can hide the flag.

Take the case of Israeli windsurfer Ma'ayan Davidovich who is currently competing at the World Championships in Oman.

Originally the Israel Sailing Association (ISA) planned to send a team to the event and visas were even issued for the team but, of course, it all got caught up in political red tape. With all the problems Israel is facing right now, ISA announced last Thursday it would not send a delegation to Oman.

Due to the security concerns raised by the Shin Bet, which is responsible for the safety of Israeli national teams when competing abroad, ISA notified the organisers two weeks ago they would not take part in the championships, resulting in the cancellation of the visas originally issued by Oman in July.

But ISA backtracked a day later and decided to send the country's three most senior surfers, Ma'ayan Davidovich, Shahar Zubari and Nimrod Mashiah. The organisers said they were unable to issue new visas so quickly and it seemed the three would have to watch the championships from their television sets in Israel.

However, Davidovich, who claimed bronze medals in the past two World Championships, has an Austrian passport, so she managed to



receive permission from the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) to compete in Oman. The only problem is that they refused to allow her to do so under the Israeli flag as she entered the Muslim Sultanate with a different passport.

Mashiah could have also competed in Oman under his Dutch passport, but ISA decided doing that would give him an unfair advantage in his ongoing battle with countryman Shahar Zubari for Israel's lone berth in the men's competition at the Rio Olympics. Zubari doesn't hold a foreign passport.

The 27-year-old Davidovich, who is sailing with ISAF on her sail rather than ISR, is in ninth place after the first day of competition, ending the first three races 10th, 11th and 10th place.

Interestingly, next year's windsurfing world championships will be held in Eilat in February, so I'm sure we can expect a lot more intrigue.

Danica called up to national training camp

JACK MILNER

Danica Schlome made a breakthrough in her promising table tennis career recently by receiving a call-up from the South African Table Tennis Board to attend training with the national Junior Squad. The training camp took place from October 3 to 10 in preparation for the 2016 African and World Youth Championships.

Although the squad is not necessarily the final team, 16-year-old Danica is hopeful she will be selected. "Ever since I started playing table tennis I have had two main aspirations. Firstly, to achieve honours at school - which I recently accomplished and secondly, to play table tennis for South Africa.

"Participating in the training camp takes me one step closer to my dream," explained

Danica, who attends King David Linksfield in Johannesburg, competed at the 2013 Maccabi Games, winning a bronze in both the junior team and doubles events and reaching the quarterfinals of the competition. Her game has since improved and she is currently ranked sixth in South Africa and number one in Gauteng.

This year Danica made it through to the quarterfinals of the girls singles at the Interprovincial Championships, beating two national players in the process, which was an important milestone for her. She has also won two silver medals in the girls doubles at this event in the past.



Table tennis player Danica Schlome has been participating in the national Junior Squad training camp in preparation for the 2016 African and World Youth Championships.

killed. (JNS.org) IDF soldier killed, 11 Israelis wounded in Beersheba attack

and fate ... #the rage of Jerusalem."

World News in Brief

JERUSALEM - A Sunday evening terror attack in the central bus station of Beersheba left 11 Israelis wounded and claimed the life of 19-year-old Israel Defence Forces soldier Omri Levi. The terrorist, identified as Muhanad Alukabi, 21, was an Israeli Arab from the Bedouin town of Hura.

"A symphony of love for Jerusalem. If the occupation

Another recent tweet by Fatah showed a picture of

on my second hand. With them I have defeated death

a student movement of the Gaza-ruling terror group

Hamas, published a video on Facebook re-enacting a stabbing and shooting attack in which two Israelis were

Meanwhile, the West Gaza branch of the Islamic Bloc,

Alukabi stabbed Levi, who later died of his wounds, and then stole his weapon, opening fire on the crowded bus terminal. The terrorist was shot dead by security forces after hiding out in a bathroom. An Eritrean migrant worker, who was mistaken for a second terrorist, was shot in the head by a security officer. He died of his wounds early Monday morning in Soroka Hospital.

Israeli police have confirmed members of Alukabi's family have been arrested on suspicion of aiding and abetting terror. According to the Shin Bet, Alukabi's mother was originally from Gaza and was granted Israeli citizenship after marrying an Israeli Arab.

Police are investigating how Alukabi managed to slip past security officers stationed at the entrance to the bus station armed with a knife and a handgun. Security measures were bolstered as of Monday

Beersheba Mayor Rubik Danielovitch told Israel's Channel 2: "We're talking about a very serious terror attack that could have resulted in severe consequences if it weren't for the resourcefulness and the quick response of security forces." (BreakingIsraelNews.com/JNS.org)

Russia and Israel establish Syria 'hotline'

JERUSALEM - The Russian military announced that it has established a "hotline" with Israel in order to avoid any inadvertent clashes in Syria.

In a statement, the Russian military said that "mutual information-sharing on the actions of aircraft has been established through a hotline between the Russian aviation command centre at the Hmeimim air base and a command post of the Israeli Air Force."

"The first stage of training was conducted yesterday on co-operation between Russian air forces and the Israeli air force to avoid dangerous incidents in the sky above the Syrian Arab Republic," the statement added.

News of Israeli-Russia co-operation on Syria comes as Russia disclosed that one of its fighter jets had recently come within a few kilometres of a U.S. aircraft over Syria. (JNS.org)

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Contact: Rabbi Rodel 011 728 0655 Address: 8 The Ave, Johannesburg, 2192









DINNER | GREAT PARK SHUL | 23 OCT 2015

Join us on Friday 23 October for a delicious Shabbos dinner catered by Stan & Pete at Great Park Shul. Candle lighting at the shul from 5:45 pm - 6:01pm

Contact: Jan Cohen 011 728 8152 Adults R350, Kids 7-13 R240, under 6 free Email: jan@jello.co.za

Address: 75 4th St, Johannesburg, 2198













Orange Grove

LUNCH | 9TH STREET SHUL| 24 OCT 2015

A communal Shabbos day lunch with guest

Contact: Rabbi Vigler 011 640 3149 Address: 79th St, Orange Grove, 2195













Orchards

SHABBOS EXPERIENCE | PINE STREET SHUL 23/24 OCT 2015

Rabbi and Rebbetzin are hosting people that are staying in the area for Friday night dinner, all-day programme at shul in the morning, and a Havdallah ceremony.

Contact: Rabbi Gerson 011 640 3101 Address: Cnr Pine & Louis Road, Orchards











Orchards

LUNCH | TORAH ACADEMY | 24 OCT 2015

Guest speaker Rabbi Kaplan from Israel, a communal lunch and shiurim throughout the day at shul.

Contact: Rabbi Liebrow 011 640 7561 Address: 57 Oaklands Road, Orchards







OAKLANDS RD STREET DINNER | 23 OCT 2015

Friday night street dinner for residents of Oaklands Road.

Contact: Hinda Mendelow 073 683 0655













Orchards

STREET DINNER | TANYA KAHANOWITZ & PINE STREET SHUL | 23 OCT 2015

Join us for a Friday night dinner in the street! Contact: Hinda Mendelow 073 683 0655



Percelia Estate

DINNER | THE WALPE'S HOUSE 23 OCT 2015

Encouraging the whole boom to come and bring friends and family, frum and not frum, to all be together on this special

Contact: Eitan Fine 084 227 4342 Email: familyfine@gmail.com





Plettenberg Bay



DINNER AT THE BEACON ISLE | PLETT SHUL 23/24 OCT 2015

Shabbos dinner at the Beacon Isle! Contact: Shai 044 533 4833 Email: Jorge@islanddiner.co.za











Sandringham

SHABBOS EXPERIENCE | AISH HATORAH 23/24 OCT 2015

Shabbos Night 23 Oct: 6.00pm Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat with Chazan Mark Samowitz, 7.15pm Sushi & Cocktail Kiddush. Shabbos day 24 Oct: 8.45am Shacharit 10.45am, special brocha, 5.00pm Mincha, 7:00pm musical Havdallah with Chazan Mark Samowitz.

Contact: Rabbi Pilatowsky 011 485 2985







Sandringham

DINNER | SANDRINGHAM GARDENS | 6 PM 23 OCT 2015

Come and spend your Shabbos Project with the residents at Sandringham Gardens and make it extra special for them. There will be a delicious 3-course dinner. Contact: Avril 011 483 7495

Cost: R100







Sandringham

LUNCH | SANDRINGHAM GARDENS | 12:30 PM 24 OCT 2015

Come and spend your Shabbos Project with the residents at Sandringham Gardens and make it extra special for them. There will be a delicious Shabbos lunch. They would love your company on this meaningful Shabbos.

Contact: Avril 011 483 7495 Cost: R50









Sandton

HAVDALLAH CONCERT | SANDTON SHUL 24 OCT 2015

Join Sandton Shul for a Havdallah concert with Jonny Sklar and Josh Alter

Contact: Harelle 011 8834210 Email: harelle@sandtonshul.co.za







Sandton

DINNER | SANDTON SHUL | 23 OCT 2015

Join Sandton Shul for a catered dinner. A fund has been established so that the entire community is able to attend.

Contact: Harelle 011 8834210 Email: harelle@sandtonshul.co.za Cost: Adults - R300 | kids 4-16 R150

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Sandton

of funds.

JHB

Savoy

Sea Point

24 OCT 2015

Sea Point

SAVOY | 23 OCT 2015





SHABBOS EXPERIENCE | CHABAD SANDTON

Friday night: Shabbos dinner under the stars

Maariv - 6:00 pm followed by a Shabbos

Shacharit | 9:00 am followed by Shabbos

street dinner. Shabbos day: Shabbos lunch

lunch picnic in the park 4:30 pm | relax with

friends & the community at the Woodmead

Springs Park | for all ages! Bring your own

kosher snacks. Join us for Havdallah at Chabad of Sandton at 7:15 pm. This is a Shabbos of unity. No one will be turned away for lack

Contact: Batva Kievman 072 801 7491

Cost: Adults 220 | Kids under 10 R150

STREET DINNER | CHABAD & OHR SOMAYACH

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LUNCH | MARAIS ROAD SHUL | 24 OCT 2015

DINNER | MARAIS ROAD SHUL | 23 OCT 2015

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and Jews from around the world will be

breaking bread together over Shabbat

DINNER | THE WOZNICAS | 23 OCT 2015

Sydenham area #MeetYourNeighbours

Contact: Esti Woznica 084 623 6554

Email: estiwoz@gmail.com

Open air Friday night Shabbat dinner for

SHABBOS EXPERIENCE | SYDENHAM SHUL

Friday night: Ladies' candle lighting 17:30: Friday night with The Solomon Brothers,

Chazan Yudi Cohen & Sydenham Shul Choir;

community street brocha with "Redds and

Rugelach" Shabbos day: catered Shabbos

Deputy Ambassador of Israel

Cost: Adults R170/ Kids (3-12) R75

Contact: 011 640 5021

luncheon; guest speaker Michael Freeman,

Email: info@maraisroadshul.com

Contact: Kerry 021 439 7543

Cost: Adults R250/ Kids R125

Sydenham

Sydenham

22 OCT 2015

Grab your picnic basket at shul and walk

to the beachfront for a a picnic on the

promenade friends and family.

Email: info@maraisroadshul.com

Contact: Kerry 021 439 7543

Email: emailrak@chabad.org.za

Savoy/Waverley under the stars.

Email: laany@webmail.co.za

Contact: Ilana Markowitz 082 885 4612

Cost: Adults R200 | Kids 3-12 yrs R120









Umhlanga

SHABBOS EXPERIENCE | UJC | 23/24 OCT 2015

U

Candle lighting ceremony, Friday night Kiddush, lunch after Shacharit, Seudah Shlishit, Havdallah Concert @ DUHC

Contact: UJC 031 566 3227 Email: ujc@iafrica.com Cost: Adults R150/ Kids R75











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Email: ctchallahbake@gmail.com











Waverley

LUNCH | WAVERLEY SHUL | 24 OCT 2015 Shabbat day lunch and then chill in

Avraham's tent under the African sky! Contact: Becky Vinokur 011 786 0437 Email: waverleyshul@iafrica.com Cost: Adults R180 | Under 10 yrs R70 Under 3 yrs free









Waverley LUNCH | THE MELTZERS | 24 OCT 2015

We are having an "Open House" Shabbos lunch for anyone in our shul who needs somewhere to go.

Contact: Ian & Lana Meltzer 083 267 2327 Email: meltzer@telkomsa.net









Wendywood

DINNER | SANDTON SINAI SCHOOL 23 OCT 2015

Come join us for a Friday night shul service & sundowners followed by a catered Friday night dinner under the stars.

Email: Shabbosproj@gmail.com Cost: Adults R175/Children R70

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JOBURG

Norwood Mall Rooftop 19:30pm

CAPE TOWN

Herzlia Weizmann 19:50pm