



# TEMPLE TIME



The magazine of The Temple Beth Israel Community

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## The fruits of commitment

**T**he name Jakobovits is now synonymous with Progressive Judaism in Australia, New Zealand and in Asia. This involved a fascinating journey from country Terang in Victoria, through to the Anatomy School at Melbourne University and has culminated in numerous visits to Jerusalem.

Penny Jakobovits began her life and education as the daughter of a country general practitioner in Terang. Both there and at boarding school in Melbourne, Penny had little contact with Jews. This changed when her studies in physiotherapy at Melbourne University meant she mixed with a number of Jewish students. She met Andrew Jakobovits at dissection classes where he was studying medicine. Penny and Andrew decided that a life together was to be theirs and she felt that she needed to know as much as possible about the history and culture of this Jewish-Hungarian refugee. Penny says that she found a faith tradition that 'spoke' to her. She had no difficulty embracing the philosophy, traditions and ethics of Judaism.

Penny and Andrew married in 1971 and there followed, in quick succession, Emma in 1973 and Simon in 1974 and later Laura in 1980. Following a three-year stay in London from 1976, Penny and Andrew returned to Australia and built a life where home and synagogue

both played an important part. From attending services as a family on a Friday night, they were made to feel a welcome part of the TBI community, especially by presidents Don Lawrence and Lorraine Topol. In turn, Don and Lorraine saw in both Penny and Andrew compassionate people who cared for their community. While Andrew was, and remains, an incredibly busy specialist medical practitioner, Penny, with only a bit of urging from her mentors, began her formal work with the community. She was soon elected to the TBI Board of Management and initiated programs of caring for members, especially the ill and disadvantaged.

A few years later, Penny and Andrew's close friend, Philip Bliss, became President of the regional body, the *Australian, Asian and New Zealand Union for Progressive Judaism*. He asked Penny if she would take on the role of Honorary Secretary of the AANZUPJ. After being convinced that she did not need to know

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**Temple Beth Israel acknowledges that we are assembled on land whose traditional custodians are the people of the Kulin Nation.**

**Temple Beth Israel is proud to be affiliated with the Union for Progressive Judaism.**



**FROM THE PRESIDENT  
ROGER MENDELSON**

**Participation is the answer**

**I** WANT A HEYMISHE SHUL. I have lost track of the number of times I have heard that comment. Usually the utterers of the comment are either ex-TBI members or people who are threatening to become ex-members.

People who express such views, usually accompanied by comments such as: 'TBI is too big. TBI is too impersonal. When I go to Shul I hardly know anyone anymore. I need to join a *shtiebl*'. These people are invariably two or three times-a-year attendees and are unlikely to fit into a *shtiebl* shul because *shtiebls* can only function if a large percentage of the congregants actually turn up on a regular basis and contribute.

TBI held wonderful services over the High Holydays. They were dignified, uplifting, moving, participatory, had superb music and exceptional sermons. Those attending could not have been other than inspired by the whole experience.

However, although TBI can put on a grand show, this is merely a window into what we are really about. The High Holyday services worked so well because we have been so active during the year in myriad ways.

During the year, TBI touches the lives of many people, from participants in the many groups, to those celebrating *simchat*, the Shul Regulars, to those learning and interacting with others, through to those who are in mourning.

This is the real TBI. To get the benefit of it requires participation and participation becomes a win/win deal for those participating and for the community as a whole.

If you attended on Yom Kippur, sat there



for an hour somewhere near the back and felt disconnected, then I urge you to do things differently next year.

Make a point of coming to services regularly, preferably on the same day of the month, join in our numerous programs, and gain a greater understanding of the Jewish annual cycle. You will then see that we really are a *heymishe shul*.

My heart-felt, warm thanks to our rabbis, cantorial soloists, choir, shammashim, office staff and those who attended, for making 5767 a great Yontev period for TBI.

*Chag sameach!*

*Roger Mendelson*

**The fruits of commitment** *continued*

anything about shorthand or typing, she took on the role and served with distinction.

After Philip retired, and following a brief interlude in the presidency by Heinz Gerstl from Sydney, there was an urgent need for a Victorian president of the AANZUPJ. Penny accepted the challenge in 2000, with the family's blessing. There followed five years of change and growth in the regional body. Fundraising increased. Outreach to the smaller communities grew and, above all, stability returned to the organisation. The highlight of her term was the employment of a full time Executive Director.

Following her retirement from office Penny was invited to be an executive member of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. She also serves on the committee for ARZA Australia and was elected as a delegate to the 35th World Zionist Congress. Not bad for the country girl from Terang!

Penny sums up the Jakobovits commitment to progressive Judaism, as 'a way of life that enriches the individual and empowers the collective, while responding to the valuable lessons of Jewish texts and traditions'.



**CAST CALL FOR  
THE PURIM SPIEL 2007!**

**Auditions for cast and recruits  
for the backstage crew - stage  
hands, designers, costumers,  
lighting, spruikers, gophers ... a  
full production crew!**

**Contact AMELIA on 9510-1488  
or [amelia.kalifa@tbi.org.au](mailto:amelia.kalifa@tbi.org.au)**

**EXCELLENT RATES!**

(Shushan pesos only)

**Keep the date free!  
3 March 2007  
for dinner & show**



## TBI Open Forums on 'Welcoming the Stranger'

**I**N THE SEPTEMBER EDITION of *Temple Time* I invited the TBI community to attend two open forums over the period of the festivals.

These forums were set up specifically to address the role of non-Jewish parents at their children's b'nei-mitzvah ceremonies, but we deliberately placed this issue within the wider theme of 'welcoming the stranger'. The TBI Board has been considering the practical ramifications of what it means to be a 'welcoming community' for several months.

The forums have now taken place. There was a combined attendance of 50 people, with 15 people attending both sessions. This is a good turn-out for this sort of program, and I know that those who spoke were often also expressing the views of others who were unable to be present. Nevertheless, at community forums every individual's presence matters, and I was struck by the fact that so few attended out of a synagogue membership of 2500. This suggests that many members of TBI feel themselves disengaged from key areas of synagogue life. If we're to be honest, we must admit that many of our members are, in effect, 'strangers' to their shul.

We began by defining the stranger as anyone who feels him/herself to be at the periphery of what's going on. The stranger can be a Jew who is a guest to TBI, or our own members who are among the 'missing generations': post b'nei-mitzvah, young adults, empty nesters, retirees; as well as non-Jewish visitors to our services, and non-Jewish relatives and family of TBI members who are celebrating life cycle events.

The arguments that we use to work out how far we go in welcoming the stranger often reveal the 'fault-lines' in our Jewish thinking; that is, they uncover the key issues that underlie all the major debates in the Jewish community. These key issues are generally expressed in the form of oppositions: tradition *vs.* innovation, distinctiveness *vs.* openness, exclusivity *vs.* inclusiveness. The real question is, how far can we go in bringing in the outsider, without sacrificing our sense of integrity as Jews? At what point is our Jewish identity on both the individual and the community level threatened by the obligation we feel as progressive Jews to be open and accommodating to the stranger?

There are principles of progressive Judaism that push us in the direction of openness: egalitarianism, pluralism, social justice, the belief that all people are created in God's image. But again, each of these principles, if pushed far enough, reveals the fault-lines of our beliefs as Jews. Even if we concentrate on the traditional *halakhic* approach, we encounter a clash of basic principles. For example, we each have an obligation towards our

*kehillah*, our congregation, that should override our individual or family needs; but this obligation can come into conflict with the obligation to honour one's parents (*kibbud av ve'em*), a *mitzvah* to which children of non-Jewish parents actually commit publicly when they read from the Ten Commandments at their bar/bat-mitzvah.

Virtually everyone who attended the two forums believed that it is important to welcome the stranger, to help others overcome the 'strangeness' of their experience of TBI and to help them feel at home; just as we would when people visit us in our own homes. Some felt strongly that we do not do this enough for our own members who may visit the synagogue only rarely and so do not feel completely at home here. They argued that the specific issue of how we integrate the non-Jewish

parent of a bar/bat-mitzvah, though it is emotionally fraught for some segments of the community, should not be our main concern.

In this vein, TBI President Roger Mendelson shared his idea about creating a team of 'shul hosts' whose role it will be to welcome everyone who enters TBI's doors, not merely handing them a *siddur* but showing them to their seats, finding partners among the congregation to befriend and guide them during the service, and ensuring that they do not stand alone during the *kiddush*. Others believe that the *mitzvah* of hospitality (*hachnasat orchim*) must become part of TBI's intrinsic culture, so that all of us – not just the rabbis or Board members – see it as our responsibility to welcome the stranger. Those who argue in this way generally do not find a problem with inviting a non-Jewish parent to stand beside their child during the child's bar/bat-mitzvah *aliyah*. They would even create a new synagogue category, 'Friends of TBI', to recognise our non-Jewish supporters, many of whom attend Shabbat services and educational programs regularly with their Jewish partners or families.

Many expressed in eloquent terms their understanding of what it means to be Jewish in terms of the sanctity of Torah, its centrality to our Shabbat worship, and its holiness as a living symbol of Jewish people-hood. They indicated how the potency of Torah as the pre-eminent symbol of Jewish identity would be diluted by having non-Jews standing prominently next to the scroll during the reading. Though they respect the non-Jewish parent of a bar/bat-mitzvah and are happy to acknowledge the support that he or she has clearly given to their child, enabling the child to reach this special day, they feel that the roles which are currently offered to the non-Jewish parent at the start and conclusion of the Shabbat service are sufficient to mark this. [These roles are described in an article I published in the August 2002 edition of *Temple Time*, entitled 'Progressive Jews and our non-Jewish relations and supporters'; copies of the article were distributed at the forums and are available from the TBI office.]

Others argued that the sanctity of Torah cannot be diluted by the hospitality we show to non-Jews within our services or by encouraging non-Jewish parents to stand by their children during the bar/bat-mitzvah *aliyah* (to clarify, the parents are not included in the *aliyah*). On the contrary, they feel that by acting generously towards the supportive non-Jewish parent and carrying out the *mitzvah* of hospitality in this way, we actually



**MATTHEW ALBERT**

**Sunday 12 November, 4 – 6 pm**  
**Temple Beth Israel**  
**Entry \$5, includes afternoon tea**

Matthew Albert founded the Sudanese Australian Integrated Learning (SAIL) program which now engages almost 300 volunteers at three campuses across Melbourne, providing free services including tutoring, home help, camps and excursions to about 450 people every week. Matthew went on to establish the Sudanese Online Research Association, an online advocacy centre for the global Sudanese diaspora.

In 2004, Matthew worked for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Nairobi, Kenya, and at the Kakuma refugee camp and is regularly published on issues concerning refugees, migration policy and African affairs.

Matthew has been appointed Australia's representative to the Commonwealth of Nations on issues of Youth Affairs – all this while working full time for the Victorian Government Solicitors' Office. Matthew was the Victorian Young Australian of the Year, 2005.

*All proceeds benefit Sudanese refugee community*

*continued on page 4*



*Rabbi Fred Morgan and young TBI member Jacob Irons surrounded by just a small proportion of the Mazon Bags collected by the Social Justice Group over the High Holydays.*

## High Holyday kindness

**M**ANY THANKS TO ALL who donated toiletries and food as part of TBI's Mazon Bag collection over the yamim noraim. Thanks to you, we were able to distribute 130 bags to Jewish Care and the Salvation Army. Both organisations are extremely grateful for our ongoing support over many years: their need continues unabated.

We didn't do so well with Metcards, having received only a handful from TBI members. This is a little disappointing. We are happy to receive Metcards at any time during the year which we distribute to asylum seekers via the well-known and respected Hotham Mission.

Asylum seekers are, in general, middle class professional people who were able to negotiate their way out of their country of persecution. They are Christian, Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim. Their arrival here is not illegal under UN Conventions; these people just do not have entry permits – in most cases not having had the time or opportunity to acquire them before their hurried departure. Instead, Australia issues them with Bridging Visas which, amongst many other conditions, preclude them from working in this country. The consequences are obvious: with no earning possibility, the asylum seekers have little choice but to fall back on the kindness and goodwill of Australians to donate to them food, clothing, and Metcards. Without Metcards, these people cannot catch public transport to any appointment or meeting they might need to attend. Imagine that in our own lives!

If you are looking for a way to help that does not consume your time, this could appeal to you. It is very easy to do.

Daily cards for zones 1/2/3 are the most sought after as many of the people live in outer suburbs, but all cards are useful. The pricing structure of Metcards are: Zones 1/2/3 \$12.60,

zones 2/3 \$8.10, zones 1/2 \$9.70

Purchase some cards and send them to the TBI office or drop them off the next time you come in. Or if it is easier for you to donate the money to buy cards, we buy them so on your behalf with pleasure. Thank you in advance,

DOROTHY GRAFF  
CONVENOR, SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

## TBI Open Forums *continued*

increase the sanctity of the moment. Our actions may even have effects that we cannot foresee, drawing the mixed-faith family more closely into the Jewish community and so carrying Judaism into the next generation of that family. It was commented that non-Jewish parents do not expect to fill roles that are reserved for Jews; they respect the differences between Jew and non-Jew in the synagogue. But they are deeply appreciative when their support is acknowledged by the community in this way.

As I hope is clear even from this very brief and partial synopsis, the contributions to the discussions were carefully thought out, considerate, often passionate but always respectful. Though some of the participants may have felt frustrated by the inevitable time limits, everyone had a chance to be heard. All the views were publicly recorded and will be taken into account when the rabbis make a recommendation for future action to the Board. That document will be prepared by the middle of November, and we hope that it will be in the hands of the community early in 2007.

Rabbi Zylberman joins me in expressing our sincere thanks to everyone who took the trouble to attend these two forums. They were valuable and all-too-rare opportunities for us, the TBI family, to share our concerns, our hopes and our vision for our Jewish home.

## Sacred Heart needs assistance

Sacred Heart Mission (SMH) in St Kilda provides meals to those in need 365 days of the year through their Dining Hall. Last year, about 50 of TBI's extended family willingly gave of their time to assist in the preparation and serving of meals over the Christmas/New Year period when many of the regular volunteers at SHM go on holidays. The TBI Social Justice Group, for the 4th year, is organising a roster to cover the shortfall of volunteers. This year we can help out not only in the Dining Hall and Kitchen but also in the Meeting Place/Breakfast Room.

There is more interaction with the people attending SHM for breakfast in the Meeting Place/Breakfast Room as clients in the Meeting Place are usually keen to have conversations with staff, and volunteers are encouraged to participate.

Clear guidelines and 'position description' will be distributed to volunteers for both roles and we will endeavour to roster you with at least one other TBI member. Please let the office know if you can be a contact person for the SHM Supervisors on your nominated day.

To volunteer or for more information, please phone Hannah at TBI on 9510-1488.

### **ROSTER TIMES:**

9:30 am – 1:30 pm approx in the Dining Hall (three people per roster required)

9 am – 1:30 pm approx in the Meeting Place (two people per roster required)

### **ROSTER DATES:**

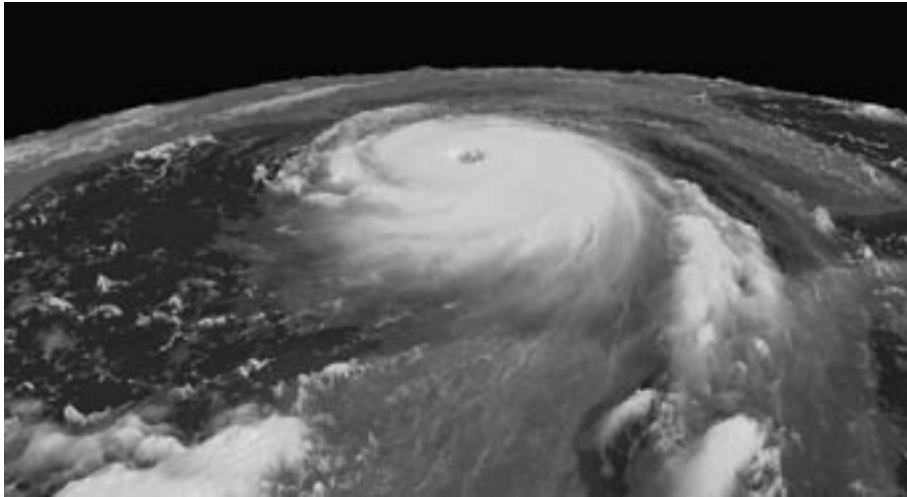
Tuesday 26 Dec, Sunday 31 Dec, Monday 1 Jan, Sunday 7 Jan, Monday 8 Jan, Sunday 14 Jan, Monday 15 Jan, Sunday 21 Jan, Monday 22 Jan, Sunday 28 Jan, Monday 29 Jan.

*Please nominate your preferences and we will contact you to negotiate the roster.*



## Judaism and the inconvenient truth

**I**N THE AFTERMATH OF Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast of the United States last year extreme fundamentalist clerics of all three monotheistic faiths made statements expounding their view that the killer storm was God's punishment on the United States for its sinful behavior.



Of course, each self-appointed spokesperson of God named different sins as the trigger for God unleashing the divine wrath. One Christian fundamentalist announced that the apparent sins were the sexual licentiousness and proliferation of gambling venues in Mexican Gulf states such as Louisiana. One Moslem fundamentalist claimed it was the United States' invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan. A Jewish fundamentalist ruled that it was the United States' support of Israel's disengagement from Gaza. Not only are such pronouncements laughably self-serving and deeply disturbing on a theological level, but they are incredibly dangerous and dangerously distracting when the real causes of our world's recent extreme weather events are pretty well understood.

At the time of writing, the front page of *The Age* declares, *Record Heat Sets States Ablaze*. ABC talk back radio is abuzz with reports about unprecedented dry conditions throughout most of Australia's farming lands. One spokesperson for the NSW Rural Fire Service commented alarmingly that bush fires at this time of year on Mt Kosciusko were previously unheard of and augur terribly for the summer fire season ahead. Among the statistics presented by *The Age* were these frightening ones: 'Nine of the ten warmest years since records began in 1861 have occurred in the past decade. 2005 was the warmest year on record in Australia'.

I shudder to think what our three extreme fundamentalist clerics might say about these statistics and the devastating fires and crop failures that are facing so many in rural Australia. Is it because we have not removed our troops

from Iraq? Or because Australia gives immigration rights to gay partners? Or perhaps because Australia is on record as supporting a two-state solution in the Middle East?

Once upon a time humanity's understanding of our cosmos was so profoundly limited that superstition and theological postulating covered up for great swathes of collective ignorance. In polytheistic cultures battles between competing gods explained variations in weather. In early monotheistic cultures the notion of divine reward and punishment helped explain much that was otherwise inexplicable and random from the tragedy of infant mortality to the mysteries of the seasons. Yet, as we understand more and more about how our universe operates (of course, we have a long way to go, and will certainly never understand it ALL), we have come to realize that most natural events have logical mechanisms that we can explain (even if we can't predict or prevent them). Heart attacks happen because of a critical reduction in blood flow to cardiac muscle. Volcanoes erupt because of a critical build up of super-heated subterranean magma. Infant mortality rates are high when there is some critical combination of poor hygiene, inadequate parental education, poverty, malnutrition and a lack of basic medical care. That is not to say that God is not involved in the workings of the universe. It is just that a more sophisticated and nuanced understanding of God and God's ways of operating needs to supersede that of earlier ones.

God gave us mortality and fragility and created the universe in which we live to operate within certain parameters. God also gave us the

ability to learn from our interactions with the universe and the choice to interact with it – and with each other – in ways that are harmful or in ways that promote harmony. As we begin another cycle of Torah reading we find a midrash that gives us a clear message about the choices we ought to be making as we look out at our withering grass and Australia's drying landscape:

God led Adam around all the trees of the Garden of Eden. And God said to Adam: 'See My works, how good and praiseworthy they are? And all that I have created, I made for you. [But] be mindful that you do not spoil and destroy My world—for if you spoil it, there is no one after you to repair it.' (Midrash Kohelet Rabbah 7:13)

The message is as simple as that. We only have one world. Let's not spoil it. With the clock ticking and climate change becoming ever more obvious we cannot afford to be idle.

Healing our broken, fractured world is incumbent on us all. It's almost certainly the most pressing *mitzvah* of our time and one that we can all engage in.

The following resources are great places to start to learn more and to find out how to fulfill this central *mitzvah*:

The Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism has comprehensive information and links about global climate change including tips about what we can each do to help: <http://rac.org/advocacy/issues/issuecc/challenge/>

See the movie 'An Inconvenient Truth' (and get your friends and family to see it too) info at: [www.climatecrisis.net](http://www.climatecrisis.net). The website has great information as well as the trailer for the movie.

The Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life website has info and Jewish insights about climate change: [www.coejl.org/climate-change](http://www.coejl.org/climate-change)

The Jewish Ecological Coalition is a key local group with useful resources [www.jeco.org.au](http://www.jeco.org.au)

The Victorian State Department of Environment and Sustainability has helpful information and tips that are specific to our local situation such as ways to access 'Green Power' at home, at work and at school: [www.greenhouse.vic.gov.au/schools](http://www.greenhouse.vic.gov.au/schools) & [www.sustainability.vic.gov.au](http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au)



**SIMCHAT TORAH WAS CELEBRATED** with much rejoicing at TBI, bringing the period of *Sukkot* to a close and renewing our annual cycle of Torah reading.

We congratulate our *chatanim* and *kallot*, David Arkles, Kathy Kaplan, Jeremy Kingsley, Simon Morawetz and Tara Kornhauser, who were honoured for their contributions to our community. Last month, we neglected to name Tara Kornhauser, who was our *Bat Bereishit*, honored this year for her contribution to the life of our community through her leadership of Netzer. Tara has participated in our youth movement in a leadership role for a number of years, and this year she has taken on the role of *Mazkira* (head of movement) with confidence, sensitivity and skill. She has really been outstanding in the way

that she has encouraged stronger links between Netzer and the synagogues of the VUPJ, while at the same time nurturing Netzer's independent spirit. It was a very great pleasure to see Tara taking this honour on Simchat Torah.

In last month's Temple Time we announced that Devorah Komesaroff was to be our *kallat bereishit*. Unfortunately, she was unable to accept due to another commitment. Devorah was nominated for her deep involvement and commitment to our Geshet minyan.

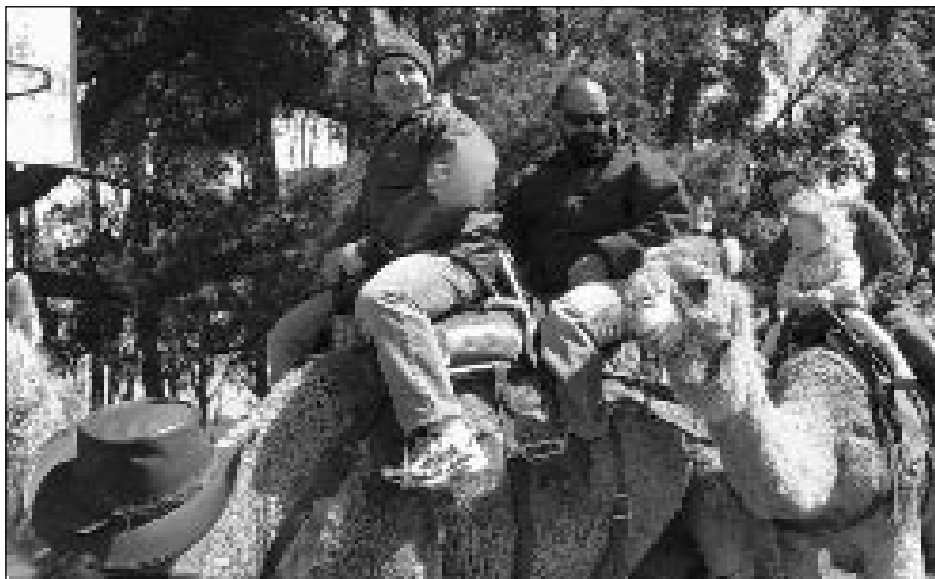
*Sukkot* began with the annual high-spirited pandemonium of *sukkah* decorating, with hun-

dreds of eager young TBI'niks creating colourful, unique decorations for our *sukkah*. A sausage sizzle fed our hungry and deserving masses before a relaxed and family-friendly service.

The second **annual family fun farm day** on Sunday morning has become a very successful part of our *Sukkot* celebrations, with families enjoying a day in the country crammed with things to do and see - farm animals, camel and pony rides, petting zoo, dancing, music, food and the opportunity to relax and meet other Temple families in the fresh air. Our thanks once again to Irvin and Lyn Rockman for hosting the day at their farm.

Look for our family-oriented activities at all our festival celebrations. **Coming up: Be on the look out for our fabulous Chanukah celebrations!**





### Sukkot celebrations!

*Opposite page, clockwise from top: decorating the sukkah; the sausage sizzlers preparing for the hungry masses; and our Tuesday Talk group enjoying a Sukkot discussion in the fresh air.*

*This page, from top: the family fun farm day offered bunnies and other farm animals to cuddle; no Jewish activity is complete without food; camels were very popular; pony rides too; very friendly camels were offered snacks by the brave!; and TBI sukkah decorators in action.*



## Yitzhak Rabin: how far have we come?

**YITZHAK RABIN INITIATED ISRAEL'S** historic walk towards peace during his time as Prime Minister. Today, it seems that long journey has covered little distance and has far to go. This month, as we commemorate the 11th anniversary of Yitzhak Rabin's death by the assassin's gun, it seems timely to review his work in the search for peace.

**Yitzhak Rabin** was born in Jerusalem, in March 1922. His father, Nehemiah, had immigrated to Israel from the United States and in World War I served as a volunteer in the Jewish Legion. His mother, Rosa, was one of the first members of the *Haganah*, the mainstream Jewish defense organization.

After completing his schooling with distinction, Rabin volunteered for the *Palmach*, the commando unit of the Jewish community. He served in the *Palmach* and the Israeli army (IDF) for 27 years, culminating his military career as IDF Chief of Staff.

Retiring from IDF service in January 1968, he was appointed Israeli Ambassador to the United States, where he consolidated ties between the two states.

Rabin returned to Jerusalem in early 1973, and became active in the Israel Labor Party. In the December 1973 elections following the Yom Kippur War, he was elected to the Knesset and appointed Minister of Labor in 1974 in Golda Meir's government.

Following the resignation of Meir's government, the Knesset voted confidence in a new government headed by Yitzhak Rabin on 2 June 1974.

As Prime Minister, Rabin placed emphasis on improving the economy, solving social problems, and strengthening the IDF. With American mediation, Rabin concluded the interim agreement with Egypt in 1975. As a result, the first Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Gov-

ernment of Israel and the United States.

In June 1976, the Rabin government ordered the Entebbe Operation.

Following the Labor Party's defeat in the May 1977 elections, Rabin served as a Member of Knesset in the Opposition, and was a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee until the formation of the National Unity Government in September 1984. He then served as Minister of Defense in the National Unity Government.

Rabin was elected Chairman of the Israel Labor Party in February 1992, and in the June 1992 national elections he was elected Prime Minister.

On 13 September 1993, Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat signed the Declaration of Principles in Washington, DC, outlining the proposed interim self-government arrangements. The *Gaza-Jericho First* agreement, signed in Cairo on 4 May 1994 addressed the implementation of the first stage of the Declaration of Principles.

Following the progress in the negotiation with the Palestinians, Rabin received the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize together with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. On 26 October 1994, Rabin and King Hussein signed the Israel-Jordan peace treaty.

On 4 November 1995, Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a gunman in central Tel Aviv after attending a rally. He was laid to rest on Mount Herzl in Jerusalem.

*You want to add some shmooze and spice to your Shabbat experience?*

### You're looking for our Young TBI dinners!

For those aged 18 – 35+ on the fourth Friday night of each month, join a disparate group of younger TBI members for a Shabbat meal following our erev Shabbat service.

Meet old friends and make new ones, shmooze and relax, enjoy music and delicious food. And if you're keen, join the organisers to prepare the meal on the day!

Contact Jamie on 9510-1488 or [jamie.wajnberg@tbi.org.au](mailto:jamie.wajnberg@tbi.org.au)

## Shabbat Alive!

On the **fourth erev Shabbat** of each month, welcome Shabbat with drums and cymbals...and guitars and singing, vibrant rhythms and youthful energy.

A special Shabbat service for everyone who enjoys some extra va-va-voom in their Shabbat experience.

### Hairy Headgear © 2005 David Ben-Yshay



◀ A *streimel* is a fur hat worn by Hassidic Jews, not to be confused with a *spodik* which looks very similar.

You can find *sh'koyach* cartoons online at <http://members.bellatlantic.net/vze43dwp/shkoyach/comic35.htm>

# B'nei Mitzvah: A journey @TBI

Jamie Wajnberg

*Imagine you are 12 years old.*

*Imagine how you feel thinking that you are about to take on your biggest responsibility yet.*

*Imagine wondering how much time it's going to take away from your school work, your social life, your TV watching time, your Saturday mornings.*

*Imagine all of the presents you will get and how proud your family will be of you.*

*Imagine how many friends you will make and different people you will meet along the way.*

*Imagine you are about to enter the Temple Beth Israel B'nei Mitzvah program.*

When people ask me what I do for work, it can be a little difficult to explain. What's a youth director? What are your major responsibilities? Do you enjoy it?

The answer I often give to people is that for all of the religious stuff, I am essentially paid to think like a 12 year old, and what could be better than that? Seriously folks. I consider all of the above scenarios every day at work. I have to. When your major job is to co-ordinate the B'nei Mitzvah program the standout issue in my mind is, 'what is the B'nei Mitzvah candidate thinking? How is this kid feeling? What would make a 12 year old excited about being Jewish?' Looking at this process through their eyes is what, I believe, makes our program the best.

*'We have a fabulous group of tutors, and it's great that our students can work with a variety of people who are great role models.'*

~ Rabbi Gershon Zylberman

Of course, there is the general understanding that there are some things that are part of b'nei mitzvah that are traditional. We Jews have a tradition that has withstood many knocks over two thousand years, but the traditions have kept us together. Learning Torah, prayer and Jewish customs. Surely we'll keep them. And we have. Lucky for me, another one of the many perks of my job is to gently weave the traditions of the past together with the person sitting in my office who still has a science project and a basketball game they need to attend to.

It is an honour and a privilege to be the person who ensures that between the ages of 12 and 13, kids who come to Temple Beth Israel certainly do all of the following things:

- learn how to leyn from Torah;
- learn basic and siddur Hebrew;
- learn a special section of Torah that will forever remain their own;

- read a Haftarah and interpret the words of Prophets and writings in their own way;
- take part in a social action activity;
- take part in at least one if not two sleep-overs;
- have challenging Saturday morning discussions on Torah and Jewish ethics
- meet a member of the community whose exclusive role is to guide them through their B'nei Mitzvah journey;
- and after all of these things, they still have time to become the newest adult members of our community.

*'I think it's great. The program seems really relaxed but at the same time I've really gotten a lot out of it - I can read Torah and the trope notes, and it's really opened my mind up to the Torah and Judaism. I get a lot out of each lesson and the activities we do.'*

~ Ben Needleman will be bar mitzvah in December 2006

Wow. Pretty impressive in my eyes. But it's only the beginning, and that's the important lesson to learn. The b'nei mitzvah year is only the tip of the iceberg of what we are able to offer here at TBI in terms of education, activity and FUN in a Jewish context.

So what are you waiting for? Pre- B'nei Mitzvah, current or post, come down to TBI for some like-minded JEWISH fun. After all, I think like you do...



Jamie Wajnberg is our TBI youth and young adults director. Jamie can be contacted on 9510-1488 or jamie.wajnberg@tbi.org.au

**MACHANE PEZEK ZMAN**

**Junior Camp**  
Grade 3 - Year 9  
January 2 - 7

**Senior Camp**  
Year 10 - 13  
January 15 - 22

**www.netzer.org.au**  
**0412 394 373**

## Moving forward to a better future

Paul Liptz

**T**HIS IS AN EXCERPT from the final essay in a ten part series in which Paul Liptz attempted to define the central challenges facing the Middle East, undoubtedly the most complex region of the world.



In Arabic there is a pivotal expression that dominates the hearts and minds of millions – *In Sha'a allah*. The way one hears this term is vital. Is it *If God/Allah Wills* OR *This is God's Will*? The subtle difference enables millions of people to claim that what they are doing is because it is 'Allah's wish and demand' – as if the human merely performs the Almighty's wishes and plays no role in the decision-making.

More deaths in history have probably been as a result of one group deciding that they alone are working as God's obedient servants than any other reason. Many human beings have not managed to totally integrate religion with tolerance.

So added to my ever growing list of 'how to get depressed in one easy lesson', I have now added yet another component. This, however, is not the essence of my thinking. Allow me to be naïve and to suggest that human dynamics and wishes are the most vital components of our lives. Thus, you and I can change the world (sounds like the words of a great song!) Having worked in the field of education for all these decades I cannot but believe that destiny is, at least partly, in the hands of the individual. The challenge in the Middle East is to search desperately for those components which will enable everyone to live better lives and one cannot simply hand over such a critical issue to one group's interpretation of their Almighty's alleged 'will'. So let's move forward and here is my Wish List as a way of moving ahead from A to B to C in this region.

**1) Sovereign States have to recognize each other.** As much as anyone can disagree with the decisions of the imperial powers in the early 20th century, this is what we have. Like other parts of the world, borders and boundaries are often a

basis for tension as they don't always satisfy the religious and ethnic claims of the citizens of a particular country. However, woe to us if we start moving borders. As a basic principle, I would suggest a status quo approach where possible. The problems however glare in our faces. If, for example, Israel's existence was threatened by Syrian control of the Golan Heights, then how could this little country give back the highlands? In addition, the creation of the Palestinian State is a contradiction of the initial principle of the sovereign state and could, with a little push, have a precedent-setting domino effect with each group demanding its own state (and just imagine the global havoc of that). Yes, there are inconsistencies, but as we think about Iraq, it seems that a one-state sovereign Iraq is better than three states which could well bring about regional instability with awful consequences.

**2) The 'oil rich' Middle East is lacking in natural resources.** Just look at these figures. The following are the percentages of arable land in some countries:

United Arab Emirates	0%
Saudi Arabia	1%
Libya	2%
Egypt	3%
Jordan	4%

Only Lebanon, Syria and Turkey are above 20%. The shortage of water and the future danger of air pollution desperately require our collective attention. Hopefully the region's policy makers will understand that, regardless of their differences, discussion on limited resources is essential.

**3) Overpopulation will sink us.** How does one correlate religious injunctions to have a large family with the inability to provide children with food? Attempts to deal with this issue were brought up at the Cairo Conference several years ago and failed but that does not mean it should not be on future agendas.

**4) Talk takes priority over war.** How does one talk to each other in this ferocious region? I was always fascinated with the stories of Israeli-Jordanian informal discussions that were conducted even when the two countries were officially at war. This was possible, apparently, because of the measured tone of interaction and respect for one another. I believe in secret negotiations between warring governments and

by recognized NGOs as a means of lessening tensions. This has to be conducted in an orderly and coordinated manner, where face to face contacts are preferable to written ones. However, there are also dangerous cases of individuals taking the initiative and seriously harming the process, hence the need for order and coordination.

**5) Cultural Understandings.** We have to go beyond our ethnocentricity and learn more about the culture of the other. We are increasingly seeing eruptions developing, such as over the Danish cartoons and the Pope's statement. Let us try and understand why Muslims respond as they do, while retaining our clear right to abhor their behavior. In Israel, let us discuss not only radical Islam but also the amazing contributions of Islam to western civilization in the Middle Ages. In Jerusalem there is small and inadequate Islamic Museum. We need a large educational one. I have seen excellent examples in several countries. Will Muslim society ever really want to learn about the marvels of Jewish history and culture? If that ever happens, then we really will be moving forward to a better world.

**6) Live and let live.** Europe has decided to encourage commonalities. One becomes a member of the Club if you sufficiently share the norms of the other members. Thus a country, to gain from the remarkable benefits of the European Union, has to accept certain religious, legal, administrative, cultural and other concepts. The Middle East is different. The right to live with one's own particular values must be accepted. This will always bring about problems, as what is vital for one group may be totally unacceptable for the other. However, let us at least try and be tolerant.

The cynic and realist will look at the above list and immediately and intuitively say, 'it can't be done'. The world is filled by those who over-frequently use the word 'never'. The global community has to move forward, and the Middle East in particular, requires creative thinkers. We can't always leave it to policy makers, so at least in our own frameworks we can try to move along the thorny path from A to B and perhaps, with time, effort and conviction, we'll actually even get to C.

*Professor Paul Liptz is a social historian who lectures in the Department of Middle Eastern and African History at Tel Aviv University, and in European and Israel Studies at the Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem. This article was published in Jerusalem, 19 Sept 2006*

# Fresh budding of Judaism in Germany

ON 14 SEPTEMBER, FOR the first time in the postwar era, rabbis were ordained in Germany. In a ceremony in Dresden, Daniel Alter, Tomas Kucera and Malcolm Matitiani received their ordination from the Abraham Geiger College for the Training of Rabbis for Europe.



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*In November 1930, a deliberate but veiled edict went out from the Reich to thoroughly destroy, ransack and loot all Jewish businesses. Violent men, some in uniform and some not, went through towns and cities in Germany and Austria, smashing glassfront windows, looting and confiscating Jewish businesses, destroying synagogues, even bursting into houses and killing innocent people in their beds.*

*The night was characterized Krystallnacht (crystal night) was so called because of the thousands upon thousand of tiny shards of broken glass which covered the ground the next morning.*

**'Krystallnacht'**  
**commemoration at TBI**  
**erev Shabbat 10 November**  
**at 6:15 pm**

Temple Beth Israel members Ella Benjamin and Tessa Dowe who participated in the 'March of the Living' in Poland earlier this year, will address the congregation to share their experiences. Please make an effort to attend this special erev Shabbat service.

During this month of November, when we commemorate *Krystallnacht*, the symbolic beginning of the end for German and European Jewry as it once was, it seems fitting to reflect on this hopeful sign of a postwar resurgence of Judaism in Germany,

The country's Jewish population has more than quadrupled since 1990 thanks to the influx of former Soviet Jews. That led to the building of new synagogues and Jewish schools. A new Jewish community centre is due to open in Munich, in line with a new willingness of Jews in postwar Germany to come out of hiding.

The need for a seminary is urgent, with about 20 rabbis spread out over more than 80 congregations. The new rabbis will help 'close the gap created by the Shoah, a gap that is painfully evident, even more so today as we lose the last generation of rabbis who personally were connected with prewar Jewish life in Germany,' according to Jan Muehlstein, chair of the Union of Progressive Jews in Germany.

The Abraham Geiger College for the Training of Rabbis for Europe, which opened six years ago, is affiliated with the World Union for Progressive Judaism and is an institute at the University of Potsdam, just outside Berlin.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has called the event a 'day of recognition and joy' as well as 'a moment of hope that these first rabbis will be followed by many more.'

*Aged 18 – 35+  
 and looking for a way  
 to interact within  
 your community?*

Contact  
 Rabbi Gersh Zylberman  
 on 9510-1488  
 or [rabbi.zylberman@tbi.org.au](mailto:rabbi.zylberman@tbi.org.au)

## Netzer's Crazy Movie Night!

*If you love watching movies and love spending time with friends - do both at the same time!*

Lights, camera, popcorn, drinks and sweet munchies provided.



Sunday 19 November at TBI  
 4:30 – 7 pm Years 3 – 9  
 7:30 – 10 pm Years 10+  
 Bring \$10 and a huge smile!

More info at [www.netzer.org.au](http://www.netzer.org.au) or from Simon 0406 582 232

## Food for the brain

*Adult education opportunities at Temple Beth Israel. For enquiries, call 9510-1488.*

### SUNDAY QUEST

Short series of shiurim on topics of Jewish interest on Sundays, 10:30 am – 12 noon.

#### The Three Pillars of Judaism

A famous passage from *Pirkei Avot* (the Sayings of the Fathers) teaches that the world stands on three pillars: *Torah, Avodah and Gemilut chasadim* (Torah learning, worship, and deeds of kindness).

We shall look at each of these three pillars of Judaism, explore their meaning to the ancient sages and commentators through the ages, and consider their meaning for modern Jews. Do these three pillars remain for us today, or have the foundations shifted radically from the past.

**With** Rabbi Fred Morgan

**When** Sunday 5 Nov

**Cost** gold coin donation

#### Beyond Kosher for the Progressive Jew

In view of strong Jewish mandates to take care of our health, treat animals compassionately, preserve the environment, conserve resources and feed the hungry - what kind of food choices are really 'kosher' for the modern Jew?

**With** Rabbi Rayna Gevurtz

**When** Sundays 12,, 19 Nov

#### The world of our ancient rabbis

A study of selected passages from the Babylonian Talmud, to reflect on the values, beliefs and lives of our ancient Sages and explore the important messages that resonate down the generations through to our own day. Our texts will be studied in English.

**With** Rabbi Gersh Zylberman

**When** Sundays, 26 Nov, 3, 10 Dec

#### The political and spiritual dimensions of Chanukah: which is primary?

Our texts and traditions offer two explanations for Chanukah, one political, the other spiritual. We'll look at both, trace their history through the literature of Chanukah and try to identify which is primary, the political or the spiritual. An eye-opening journey through the traditions of Chanukah.

**With** Rabbi Fred Morgan

**When** Sunday 17 Dec

## Chanukah & Christmas: the stories behind the stories

### A sharing of the deeper meaning of the two December festivals

A special interfaith event co-hosted by the Toorak Uniting Church and Temple Beth Israel for members of our two communities and interested friends

Presentations and discussion with  
Rabbi Fred Morgan  
and Reverend Annejke Oppewal

Sunday 26 November, 5 – 6:45 pm  
Temple Beth Israel

*Further information on 9510-1488*

### Exhibition by artists with vision impairments

Madeleine Popper is seeking expressions of interest from artists with vision impairments who would like to take part in a group exhibition.

She is interested in exhibiting works by artists with mild vision impairments right through to artists with little or no vision.

**Contact her on 9502-7356, 0417-304-579  
or email [madeleine@ronpopper.com.au](mailto:madeleine@ronpopper.com.au)**

*An alphabetical listing of all the groups and activities centred on Temple Beth Israel. Please call the contact person specified, call the Temple office on 9510-1488 or check our monthly calendar for dates.*

### ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

Social and support group for Jewish Australian families with adopted children (JAFAC).

**Contact Fliss 0418 504526**

### DROP IN & CHAT/CRAFT CIRCLE @ TBI

BYO tabletop games or indulge your craft interests. Second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am. \$2 for refreshments.

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Entertainment & social interaction, first and third Wednesday monthly. 11:30am to 1:30pm. Entry is \$7, includes lunch & raffle ticket.

### GESHER L'TEFILLAH @ TBI

On second Shabbat monthly at 10 am, an intimate self-led gathering with Torah study.

### LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

Meeting every six weeks or so, offers companionship, support and provides helpful information to carers. Next on 11 December.

### MATAN

Hebrew and Jewish studies program for children from prep to b'nei mitzvah age. **Amelia on 9510-1488 or [amelia.kalifa@tbi.org.au](mailto:amelia.kalifa@tbi.org.au)**

### MEN'S GROUP

An opportunity for Jewish men to gather for discussion on issues of concern. Meeting monthly in private homes. **Contact Albert on 9555-2527 for details**

### NISHMAT COL CHAI

Jewish meditation, chanting, discussion on first Wednesday evening of the month. Occasional Jewish Renewal services with lay facilitators. **Eva Light on 9510-1488**

### SHABBAT SHALOM @ TBI

A special service in MRC on **first Shabbat of each month** at 11 am for families with young children from kinder to Grade 2. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

### SUNDAY WALKS 'LECH LECHA'

Meet in Caulfield Park each Sunday morning for a walk in the Park followed by coffee.

**David on 0414 339 238**

### TEMPLE TIME PACKING TEAM

Sort, wrap and pack the monthly issue of *Temple Time*. Last Wednesday monthly.

### THE O.C.

A safe forum with two trained youth leaders for our young, post b'not mitzvah girls. Monthly to chill, chat, have a bite to eat, socialise. **Contact Jamie for dates on 9510-1488 or [jamie.wajnberg@tbi.org.au](mailto:jamie.wajnberg@tbi.org.au)**

### TOASTMASTERS

Develop communication and leadership skills, self-confidence and personal growth. **Alan Samuel on 9510-1488**

# Yesh Israel Trip

A three week educational experience in Israel

3 – 27 December 2006

*Designed to ensure as much time as possible is spent with Israelis!*

**Kibbutz Lotan**—a member of the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism, this kibbutz is leading the environmental revolution in Israel. Includes hands on work experience on one of the environment projects and meeting peers.

**The Leo Baeck Education Centre**—the largest Progressive campus in Israel will run topical seminars and tours with local students

**Touring**—See many of the significant attractions, including Masada, the Dead Sea, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and the Golan Heights

**Who can participate?** All Year 10 students who are affiliated with the Union for Progressive Judaism or who are recommended by their youth movement shaliach or school principal.



Sponsored by The King David School  
The Emanuel School  
and The Zionist Federation Israel Programs

Further information Register your interest with  
**Shayndel Samuel on 8508-9606**  
or email [shayndel.samuel@kds.vic.edu.au](mailto:shayndel.samuel@kds.vic.edu.au)

## How much do you know about Harry Potter?



Enter the Leo Baeck Centre **Harry Potter Chanukah Mastermind Competition** and win one of 6 fantastic prizes, including a year-long Gold Coast 3-park kids Super Pass!

First heat on 10 December

Final heat on 17 December

Registration essential by 3 December

Call Leo Baeck Centre on 9819-7160 for information and registration form.

## Chanukah

concert

Temple Beth Israel

Sunday 10 December, 5 pm

Popular Jewish and international melodies performed by Tamara Vaselevitskaya, Yury Frolov, Tiimm Bajraszewski, Natan Gissin, Farida Motorina, Sergei Golovko, Irine Grigorian, Jennifer Hawley & Terry Cole

Tickets \$20/concession \$10

available from TBI office or call 9510-1488

*all profits will benefit Magen David Adom*

## New Beginnings: A springtime of opera & vocal delights

Fundraiser for The Leo Baeck Centre's Building fund & Jewish Aid Australia's work with Sudanese, Darfur and asylum seeker communities in Melbourne

### TICKET:

\$65 adult,

\$50 pensioner/student

To book send a cheque to

The Leo Baeck Centre,

PO Box 430, Kew 3102

or book by phone 98197160

Venue is a private home

SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2006  
COMMENCING 3 PM

A concert starring:

Tania de Jong (*soprano*),

Jonathan Morton (*baritone*)

*Courtesy of Pot-Pourri and*

*Music Theatre Australia*

Samuel Krum (*counter-tenor*)

Kate Bright (*soprano*)

**Music Director: Dr David Kram**

Followed by a lavish afternoon tea

## Temple Time Mailbag

Temple Time welcomes feedback and suggestions from our readers. If there is something you would like to share, some feedback you feel would be helpful, a suggestion on what you would like to see, please send your letter to:

**Temple Time Mailbag**

**PO Box 128 St Kilda, 3182**

or email the editor at

[zoi.juvris@tbi.org.au](mailto:zoi.juvris@tbi.org.au)

We will try to print all feedback but reserve the right to edit or print excerpts if your letter is particularly long.

## Support for a Jewish Home

I would like to pass on my thanks and appreciation to whoever made the decision this year to forward a high holiday ticket for my non-Jewish husband. He always attends shule with us, but normally for the high holidays I have to ring and request a ticket for him.

In a family where both parents are not Jewish but where the couple are committed to bringing up their children in a Jewish home, I believe that it is very important for the shule to support this goal by making the non-Jewish partner feel welcome. By sending my husband a ticket TBI has done this.

I would also like to provide feedback on my daughter's experience of Matan. She is always happy to come on a Monday afternoon after school and she is always happy when I pick her up. On the drive home she tells me how much fun it has been and what she has learnt. Jamie and her team are doing a great job!

Kind regards,  
name withheld

## Fresh eyes on High Holydays

Maybe we were sitting nearer to the front this year but we found this years High Holiday services very fulfilling and one could really appreciate the enormous effort and energy that the rabbis cantors and choir put into their very professional performances.

Looking at the 'extended' TBI on High Holydays with barely an empty seat is magical and full credit should be given to the professional staff and members of the board that make the services so welcoming. From the moment of walking through the gates with cheerful greetings you feel an immediate bond to the TBI family.

Mazel tov and thank you to all those involved in making these services so special.

Philip and Andrea Bliss

# Smachot

## NEW MEMBERS

*We welcome those who have joined the TBI family since 11 March this year!*

• Mary & Saul Appel • Elias Appel • Frieda Appel • Avraham & Raymonde Appel with son Yoav • Andrew Bancroft • Simon Bancroft with daughter Francesca • Ami Barda • Jessica Basser • Benjamin Bloom • Jennifer Brand with daughters Katie & Kelly & son Matthew • Jonathan Briskin & Bella Sagoll • Barry Broons & Joanna Lehrer-Broons with daughter Jordana & son Jess • Joseph Cavin • Judy Chasemore • Samantha Colquhoun with son Max & daughter Claudia • Lynne Datnow with son Daniel Datnow-Jamieson • Biana Fable • Nathan Feldman • Helen Ferber • Michael & Avril Fink • Sharona Frid with sons Oliver & Eli Maher & daughter Bibi Maher • David Gdanski • Annie & Tony Goodson with daughter Georgie & son Jay • Karen & David Gordon with daughter Jessie • Leon Gouzenfiter • Damien Green & Galit Marks • Andrew Gruskin & Naomi Leyton with daughter Gabrielle Gruskin • Steve Halperin • Caroline Heard • Sol & Margaret Hendler • Dion & Amy Hershan with sons Dylan & Lachlan • Karen Hirth • Martin Hoffman • Madeline Imber • Justine Jacobi & John Landau, with sons Charlie & Jay • Philippa Jacobson with son Adam • Roman & Martine Jansen with sons Ashley & Jeremy • Matthew Kalman • Brad & Carolyn King with sons Ashley & Justin • Mark & Karen Kirkham with daughters Bianka & Romy • Helen Kleper • Robert Kochen & Leora Black, with son Samuel & daughter Nancye • Yuval Kolinsky & Nathalie Cabessa • David Krasnostein with daughter Sarah & son Joshua • Miriam Levi • Janet Levi-Rayment • David Lew & Lesley Novy • Ben Lewski • Morris & Dasha Mark with daughters Simone & Rebecca & son Benjamin • Andrew & Simone Markus • Harold & Doreen Miller • Michael Milmeister • Susan Minc • Sandra Minc • Rachel Morley & Jeff Sharp with sons Nathan & Dominic Sharp • Anthony Morris • Neville & Vivienne Moses with daughter Lauren & son Andrew • Julie Nadler with sons Marcus & Samuel Abramson • Sandra & Maurice Naftal • Isabella Norikov-Wharran • Roi Peretz • Boris Petukhov • Daniel Ravech • Mara Reifman • Adrian Rose with son Marcel • Greg Rosshandler • Leor Samuel & Natalie Goldstat • Neil & Marion Samuel with son David • Paul Sandowsky & Alexandra Newman-Sandowsky • Mike Scheidlinger & Sharon Levy with son Alon • Sandra Schneiderman • Tara & Neil Schyer with sons Joel & Oscar • Marion Segal • Joel & Julie Shulkin

with daughter Leesa & son Marc • Ruth Siegel • Natasha Silberberg with son Sebastian Prejean • David & Katherine Sylvan with son Joshua & daughter Amy • Rebecca Tuszyński with son Jamie • Mark & Vicki Vasserman with daughters Emma & Veronica • Benjamin Walvisch • Aron & Mina Wartski • David & Tamara Wolff • George Wynn • Sandy Zalstein • Harry Zipper • Barbara Zoland with daughter Ally • Raphael Zylberman & Jane Mikhailova

## RECENT BIRTHS

*We welcome the new babies who have expanded our congregational family!*

**Noah Pook** (son for David & Melinda Pook) • **Amelia Lily Korman** (daughter for Justin Korman & Allison Edwards; great granddaughter for Sarah Bock)

## RECENT ENGAGEMENT

*Mazal tov to this recently engaged couple:*

Jamie Wajnberg & Ilan Zimmer

## RECENT WEDDING

*Mazal tov to this recently married couple:*

Sylvie Jonas & Denis Frankel (in August)

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

*Mazal tov on celebrating a birthday to:*

Yona Abish • Samantha Bando • Philip Bliss • Harry Bristow • Olga Brooke • Julian Buckeridge • Mary Burger • Justin Cohen • Vera Danos • Michelle Dodge • Judi Dubiner • Enid Elton • Max Esser • Anne Faiman • Anita Feigin • Rita Greiner • Bruce Hyams • Leslie Hyams • Brenda Kahan • Shirley Kaminsky • Lionel Katz • Elfrieda Kaufmann • Liz Leder • Mark Levi • Danny Lustig • Howard Nathan • Irene Popper • Darryl Pribut • Neomy Reuben • Michael Rosta • Julie Scanlan • Mim Segal • Isobell Slonim • Matthew Snow • Alfred Sternberg • Irene Strauss • Lina Varon • Stephanie Welner • Maria Wollan • Lore Zent •

## SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

*Mazal tov on their wedding anniversaries to:*

• Aron & Mindel Wartski (60th) • Peter & Bette Pulver (45th) • Phil & Julie Scanlan (20th) • David & Sharon Marlow (20th) • John & Margot Hillel (15th) • Barrie & Helen Midler (10th) • Paul & Rochelle Rozenal (10th) • Alexander & Caroline Wolff (5th)

## OCTOBER BA'ALEI KRIYAT TORAH

• Kathy Kaplan • Tara Kornhouser • Evi Morawetz • Simon Morawetz • Sue Morgan • Ben Sasse • Danya Sterling • Jamie Wajnberg • Romy Zyngier

## MAZAL TOV!

To young member **Ben Needleman**, who was recently awarded the coveted Debaters Association of Victoria Swannie Award, for achieving the highest speaker score in his debating division!

## DONATIONS: GENERAL FUND

• Sylvia Angel • Basil Arkles • Paul Bartrop • Alethea Belford • Sandy Benjamin • Jean Berah • Daniel & Melanie Birner • Philip & Andrea Bliss • Aleksandra Boubnovksaia • Moris Braun • Evelyn Bresner • Joseph & Estelle Brown • Max & Nora Bruch • Bettina Burnett • Nellie Castan • Ula Curry • Jim Cyngler • Philip & Debra Dalidakis • Ruth Davidson • Max Drajer • Mark Dreyfus • John Fast • Joshua Fast • Abrasha Feigin • Marga Finkelstein • Eli Firestone • Yvonne Fisher • Max & Judith Fremder • Jenny Gorog • Alfred & Ann Greenwood • Anneliese Gries • Alain Grossbard • Felicity Guthrie • Paul Hall • Mary Harber • Jill Harris • Robert Hershan • Karen Hirth • Gabriel Hoening • Marilyn Hyams • Ross Hyams • Greg Hyde • Andrew & Penny Jakobovits • John Kaufman • Peter Kohn • Helen Leperere • Barry Lewin • Maria Lewit • Eva Light & Alex Garfinkel • Ruth Little • Peter & Carole Loewy • Mary Mahemoff • David Mark • Robert & Helen Mark • Don Marks • Ruth Marks • Miriam Matthews • Sue Mendelson • Alan & Esther Michael • Simon Morawetz • Edward Morris • Carl & Madeline Muller • Jeffrey Nirens • Sonya Oberman • David Opat • Kimberley Orner • Uri & Nili Palti • Nicole Pasmanik • Penleigh & Essendon Grammar School • Margaret Poll • Yehuda & Rena Rabin • Michael Rich & Nicole Phillips • Emile & Kathy Rochman • Tom Rosauer • Michael & Rose Rosta • Vivienne Rosta • Edith Sadlon • Marion Samuel • Michael & Sally Schonfeld • Jack & Denise Setton • Sam Sharman • Nikki Sonenberg • Norman & Sue Sonenberg • Catherine Soveny • Nicholas Splitter • Joe & Eva Stupel • Neville & Vivien Swinnerton • Pinchas & Helen Tidor • Sheryl Topol • Eva Towers • Nelly Vagana • Bronia Witorz • Lewis & Deborah Woolf • Robert Zucker

## PROGRESSIVE JEWISH CULTURAL FUND

• Marvin & Janice Alper • Gerda Bandman • Adrienne Basser • Benjamin Slome Charitable Foundation • Frankie Blei • Philip & Andrea Bliss • Bettina Burnett • Peter & Mirri Curtis • Barry & Pam Fradkin • Roma Frey • Liselotte Graetzer • Dorothy Graff & Felix Wyss • Harry Greenberg • Felicity Guthrie • Robert & Yvonne Hershan • Valda Heyman • Zeleck & Shirley Kaminsky • Peter Kolliner • Peter & Liz Marks • Fred & Sue Morgan • Diana Opat • Doris Page • Lou & Maree Paykel • Irvin & Lynette Rockman

• John & Margot Rogers • Hedy Setton • Oscar Sokolski • Peter Stach • Agnes Ziltzer • Albert & Ziona Zylberman

## COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

• Marvin & Janice Alper • Frank & Gail Blode • Jacob Boon • Frank Durra • Sandra Farber • Ross Liebmann • Helen Light • Peter & Bette Pulver • Martha Sanders • Alma Slawik • Irene Strauss • Russell & Janis Whytcross • Russel Wiese

## Bereavements

### DEATHS

*We remember these recently deceased and offer sincere condolences to their families:*

**Joseph Fox** (father of Rabbi Brian Fox and Roger Fox) • **Ruth Goddard** (mother of Evelyn Wittner) • **Wendy Lowenstein** (mother of Marti Lowenstein) • **Esther Ornstien** (mother of Ross Ornstien & Gail Cohen) • **Michael Potter** (father of Leon Potter) **Barbara (Basia) Strom** • **Daniel Weinstein**

### Yahrzeits

*Zecher Tzadik Livracha*

### OBSERVED ON 4 NOVEMBER

• **Alma Alexander** (mother of Loris Rechter) • **Joseph Barger** (father of Gregori Barger) • **Lewis Bernstein** (father of Leila Cohen) • **Reca Bliss** (mother of Philip Bliss) • **Noel Castan** (friend of Max Fink) • **Jean V Cohen** (mother of Beverly Gorr) • **Helene Durra** (grandmother of Frank Durra) • **Harold Elkan Wexler** (brother of John Wexler) • **Minnie Greenberg** (mother of Harry Greenberg) • **Ivan Greenberg** (father of David Greenberg) • **Rosa Grossbard** (mother of Alain Grossbard JP) • **Alexander Haar** (father of Mary Burger) • **Wallace Harris** (husband of Jill Harris) • **Henry Isaacs** (father of Joan Katz) • **Ana Ivensky** (mother of Bella Shannon) • **Philip Alexander Joachim** (son of Sylvia Joachim) • **Steven Kolliner** (father of Peter Kolliner) • **Carlo Kunstler** (father of Jean Berah) • **Hymie Levin** (father of Shirley Nathan) • **Heinz Meyer** (brother of Irene Strauss) • **Dina Milstein** (mother of Bob Milstein) • **Alec Morris** (father of Edward Morris) • **Louis Moss** (father of Theo Moss, grandfather of Marcus Moss) • **Elsa Perlman** (mother of Sylvia Joachim) • **Raynor Ralph Joachim** (husband of Sylvia Joachim) • **Kenneth Reuben** (son of Daniel & Neomy Reuben) • **Eva Marka Rosauer** (daughter of Alma Slawik, wife of Tom Rosauer, mother of Karen Rosauer) • **Martha Ruckenstein** (mother of Marietta Manders) • **Kurt Selby** (father of Eleanor Hart) • **Pearl Sherwin** (wife of Leo Sherwin) •

**Erna Strauss** (mother of Anne Felder) • **Samson Tenenbaum** (father of Thomas Tenenbaum)

### OBSERVED ON 11 NOVEMBER

• **Yacov Achildiyev** (father of Regina Aronov) • **Hannah Orah Arkles** (wife of Basil Arkles, mother of David Arkles) • **Rosa Cohn** (mother of Kurt Schwarz) • **Matilda Davis** (mother of Eric Davis) • **Philip Epstein** (father of Joseph Epstein) • **Rachel Finkelstein** (mother-in-law of Sara Finch) • **Henry Frosh** (2nd husband of Helena Frosh) • **Edith Geiger** (mother of Evi Nelson) • **Herman Hoffmann** (father of Aurora Gininger) • **Harry Hyams** (father of Leslie Hyams, father-in-law of Marilyn Hyams) • **Hertz Kaminsky** (father of Zeleck Kaminsky) • **Rosa Kassel** (mother-in-law of Erika Fisher) • **Ethel Korn** (mother-in-law of Margit Korn) • **Isidor Leschnitzer** (grandfather of Gunter Lesh) • **Ruth Mendelsohn** (mother of Oliver Mendelsohn) • **Johanna Meyer** (mother of Irene Strauss) • **Moshe Mrocki** (brother of Ann Greenwood & Harry Mrocki) • **Celia Pahoff** (mother of Les Pahoff) • **Victor Paykel** (father of Lou Paykel) • **Isaac Rockawin** (father of Helen Spencer) • **Barry Rubin** (father of Janine Roff) • **Moshe Mayer Rybajzen** (father of Masza Kaye) • **Lewis Samuel** (father-in-law of Shirley Samuel, grandfather of Alan Samuel, Brian Samuel, Graeme Samuel, Ian Samuel & Neil Samuel) • **Frederic Schneider** (father of Sonia Zimmermann) • **Ilse Seligmann** (mother of Fred Seligmann) • **Rachel Silvera** (mother-in-law of Raoul Nahmias) • **Sifra Smadic** (mother of Sara Finch) • **Henry Alexander Splitter** (father of Leon Splitter, grandfather of Martin Splitter) • **Manfred Stern** (father of Norm Stern) • **Henryk Wachenhauser** (father of Danuta Mendelson) • **Margit Wieselmann** (sister-in-law of Gloria Wieselmann)

### OBSERVED ON 18 NOVEMBER

• **Benjamin Aarons** (grandfather of Maurice Slonim) • **Etel Bontschek** (mother of Martha Gries) • **Norman Cohen** (cousin of Marion Pizer & Robert Levin) • **Percy Cohen** (father of Leon Cohen & Mervyn Cohen) • **Sarah Davis** (mother of Eva Felts) • **Ian Dorey** (husband of Ann Dorey, father of Phyllis Dorey & Ron Dorey) • **Alfred Fleischer** (father of Ellen Pahoff) • **Dave Friedman** (father of Deborah Woolf & Naomi Carrick) • **Friederike Graetzer** (mother-in-law of Liselotte Graetzer) • **Leo Alfred Hartman** (husband of Esther Hartman, father of Rodney Hartman) • **Gerda Betty Hauck** (mother of Gaby Cohen) • **Cecily Hegyi** (cousin of Magdee Taryan) • **Aron Zemach Hoffman** (brother of Basja Levy) • **Chloe Howard** (granddaughter of Rodney & Aviva Taft) • **Gerald Bernard Lipinski** (father of Clive Lipinski) • **Franz Berthold Lippmann** (father-in-law of Marion Lippmann,

grandfather of Helen Light) • **Gabriel Mandelbaum** (father of Richard Manders) • **Beryl (Jacki) Phillips** (mother of Marylou Orloff) • **Fred Redlich** (husband of Greta Redlich) • **Francis Slonim** (mother of Maurice Slonim) • **Toni Spitz** (mother of Eve Lustig) • **Ann Esther Vamos** (daughter of Gusta Schwarcz) • **Rosine Bertha Vos** (mother of Eva Neeter) • **Gershon Zylberman** (father of Albert Zylberman, Michael Zylberman)

### OBSERVED ON 25 NOVEMBER


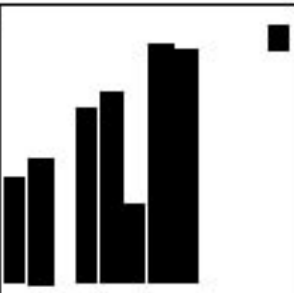
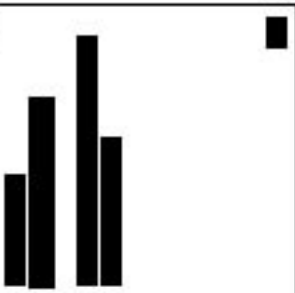
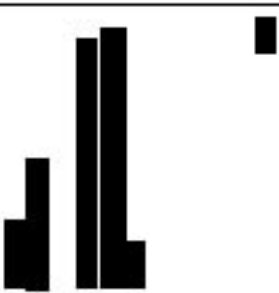
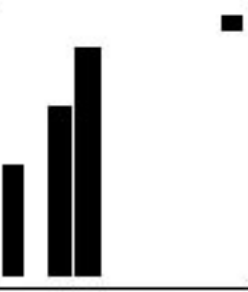
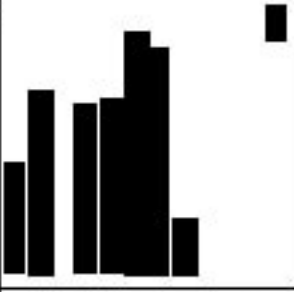
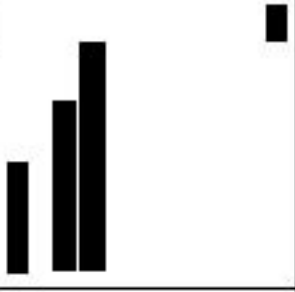



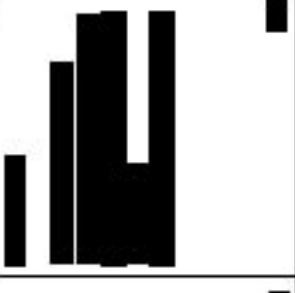
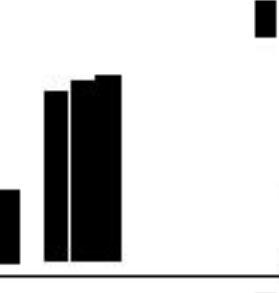

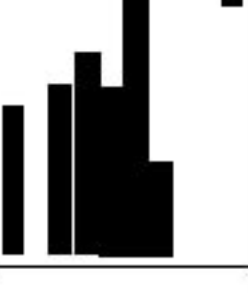
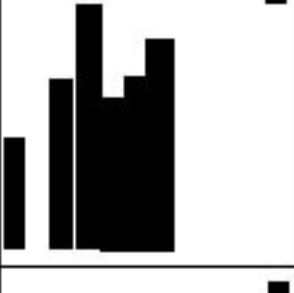
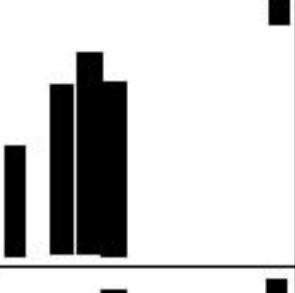
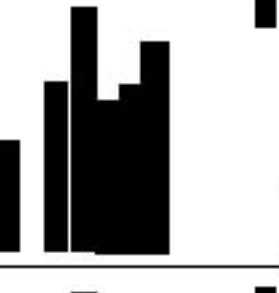

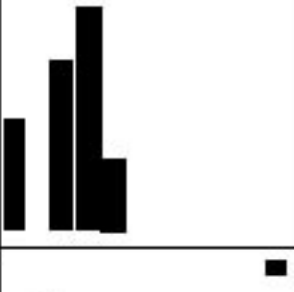
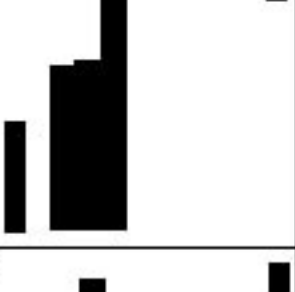


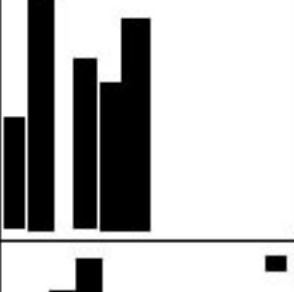
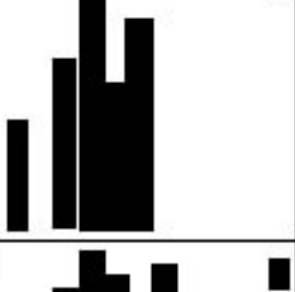
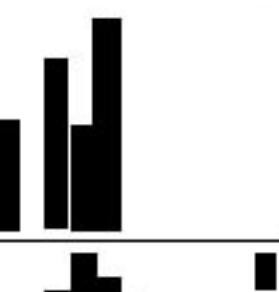
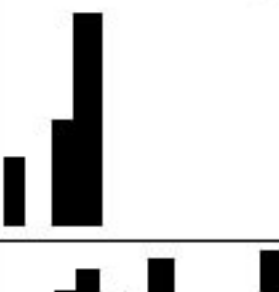
• **Herbert Almus** (friend of Eva Weisl) • **Lotti Arndt** (aunt of Lolo Jackson) • **Mendel Balberyszski** (grandfather of Bernard Zimmermann) • **Michel Brous** (husband of Hilda Brous, father of Pia Brous) • **Esther Burns** (mother of Barbara Fredman) • **Alexander Cummings** (brother of Sylvia Radolnik) • **Henry Cymbalist** (husband of Susie Cymbalist) • **Edgar Dubiner** (grandfather of David Freedman) • **Graeme Emanuel** (1st husband of Sandra Masel, father of Joanne Gubieski) • **Wolfe Flack** (father of Andrea Bliss) • **Hermine Fleischmann** (mother of Carl Muller) • **Phyllis Fradkin** (mother of Barry Fradkin) • **Abe Greenbaum** (son-in-law of Chaim Rozenberg) • **Moshe Katz** (husband of Joan Katz) • **Henry Krindler** (uncle of Anna Paul) • **Leon Leperere** (husband of Helen Leperere) • **Francis Edward Levy** (father of Hal Levy) • **Julian Lewit** (husband of Maria Lewit, father of Joe Lewit, grandfather of Michelle Lewit & Natalie Lewit) • **Vali Marcus** (mother of Robert Marcus) • **Abraham Moshinsky** (father of Sam Moshinsky) • **Sarah Paykel** (mother of Lou Paykel) • **Leo Phillips** (father of Nicole Phillips) • **Adam Popiolek** (husband of Hanna Popiolek) • **Jacob & Pearle Rozenberg, Joseph Rozenberg** (parents & brother of Chaim Rozenberg) • **Winifred Sanger** (mother of Peter Nathan) • **Aimee Selby** (mother of Benn Selby) • **Helen Shaw** (grandmother of Lionel Katz) • **Otto Sherwin** (brother of Leo Sherwin & Martha Sanders) • **Ester Shmukler** (mother of Efim Shmukler) • **Jennifer Ann Spencer** (daughter of Edith Spencer, sister of Tom Spencer) • **Louis Swart** (father of Ian Swart) • **Martha Yates** (aunt of Eva Marks) • **Clementine Zipper** (mother of Harry Zipper) • **Tina Zipper** (mother of Elphine Bridgeman)

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