

# קול ישראל ..... TEMPLE TIME

The magazine of The Temple Beth Israel Community CHANUKAH EDITION (NOVEMBER 2007 – JANUARY 2008)

## Chanukah at TBI



- FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER:** Erev Shabbat Chanukah family celebration at 6:15 pm! Bring your chanukiyah and fill our shul with light.
- SUNDAY 9 DECEMBER:** The Great Chanukah Family Farm Day, 12 noon to 3 pm, Gemrock Farm, Gembrook BBQ, animal petting zoo, horse and camel rides, Israeli dancing, family games, music and lots of food! \$25 per family includes food, drinks and ALL ACTIVITIES! Bookings are essential by 3 DECEMBER for catering purposes. Call 9510 1488 or email [reception@tbi.org.au](mailto:reception@tbi.org.au) for directions, more information and bookings.
- SUNDAY 9 DECEMBER:** Chanukah soccer match **Barmi Army** (b'nei mitzvah) vs **Jew Crew** (young adults), Alma Park from 6 pm

**DETAILS INSIDE!**



**FROM THE PRESIDENT  
ROGER MENDELSON**

## The power team for 5768

**I** am very excited about the Board we have in place for the coming year. Over our 77 year history, we have had many brilliant people contributing to our development and growth. Without them, we would not be in the position we are in today, which is the largest (by a country-mile) Jewish congregation in Victoria and equal runner in the top three congregations in Australia.

To continue our development and growth, we need to harness the energy of the best people we can get and I believe that we have achieved this. Elsewhere in this edition, you will read some biographical details about our Board members.

However, let me give you a more personal insight into our team.

If there were such a thing as the Kennedy family of TBI, then the Samuels would no doubt qualify for it. This family has public service engraved in its collective heart and a strong and longstanding association with the Progressive movement and with TBI.

Brian Samuel is our Senior Vice President and is Chairman of the Board. Brian would win our Sartorial Award hands down, which is a by-product of his working life in the fashion industry.

David Arkles has taken on the position of Treasurer for the second year. He has presided over a dramatic change in our financial position and is a great strategic thinker and a man of action, as well as being a terrific golfer and connoisseur of whisky.

Dorothy Graff is now into her second year on the Board. Dorothy was raised in a Temple family and has an enormous love for the institution. Don't be fooled by her soft manner and quiet voice. Dorothy has achieved great success as a Human Resource expert and is able to make hard decisions, although in the nicest way possible.

Our new honorary secretary is (Dr) Ian Heyman. Ian has been on the Board for two years and is a genuinely 100 per cent nice person. He would find it impossible to say anything nasty about anyone and has an ever-cheerful nature which has endeared him to the regulars. He loves our services and if you don't know him, simply look for the smiling figure on the bimah.

The youngest Board member and now into her second year, is (soon to be doctor) Fairlie Wayne. Fairlie comes from an

extended TBI clan, which extends to her grandparents, mother, aunt and uncle and cousins and sister. Her father and paternal grandparents also attend regularly. Fairlie really does bring the youth outlook to our deliberations and is an inveterate and deep questioner, as befitting her academic training.

We may have a historic first this year, with Karen Wayne joining the Board. An historian will need to check our records to see if this is the first time we have had a mother and daughter combination serving together. Karen is also a doctor and, I expect, will be as insightful and questioning as Fairlie.

Ian Samuel has held so many positions within the Jewish community in Melbourne that it would be impossible to list them all here. However, TBI is his spiritual home and we are delighted that he is continuing as a member of our Board. Ian has unmatched knowledge of TBI people and families.

Miriam Feldheim is into her second year on the Board. Many of you will remember Miriam as the successful leader of the Shammashim group and an active shammash herself. Miriam is very much a doer and task-oriented person, as evidenced by the brilliant job she did last year in organising Rabbi Magonet's visit.

Pat Fink is a living testament to the word 'multicultural'. Beginning life as a Malaysian Catholic, with innate qualities derived from the far corners of the world, Pat has found her spiritual home at TBI. Her dazzling smile, great people skills and passion will be gratefully harvested by us.

Rami Stiglec has been very active in the life of young TBI. His mother, Frances, was the rabbi's secretary for many years. He has just completed a doctorate and is about to become a teacher. His youth and focus on learning will be of great benefit to us.

The other board on which Robert Her- shan sits is a major public company located in London and he has been flying to meet-

ings there every month. Accordingly, we are in august company. Robert has been on our Board for two years and is a voice of reason and rationality. He does not need to yell to be heard. When Robert speaks, there is a hushed silence and everyone listens.

(Dr) Rob Sward has a long history with TBI and has just joined our Board. A scientist and senior bureaucrat in the State government, he will bring a new perspective to our thinking and greatly enhances the skills of the Board.

Sam Sharman is entering her third year as a vice president of TBI. Sam has served on the Board previous to this team and is very much a doer. As well as having a keen business perspective, Sam has an irrepressible humour.

Our Board is also enhanced by the ex-officio members who attend, namely Alan Samuel, Kathy Kaplan (immediate past president), our three rabbis and Yossi Cohen, the Netzer and VUPJ shaliach.

We have a pool of talented, committed people who all share a great passion for Progressive Judaism as well as for the institution of TBI.

Last year was an exceptional year for TBI. It was a year of increasing membership numbers, significant attendances at services, excellence in the quality of services and b'nei mitzvah, a balanced budget and a great deal of activity from the nearly thirty groups which involve TBI members. This coming year is going to be even better. I look forward to seeing you in shul.

*Roger Mendelson*

*Put faces to the names: clockwise from top right, Kathy Kaplan (ex officio), Ian Samuel, Sam Sharman, Fairlie Wayne, Pat Fink, Miriam Feldheim, Dorothy Graff, Ian Heyman, Brian Samuel, David Arkles, Rami Stiglec, Robert Sward.*

*President Roger Mendelson, new member Karen Wayne and ex officio members Alan Samuel, Jamie Wajnberg, Yossi Cohen and Rabbis Gevurts, Morgan and Zylberman are not pictured with the group.*

## Meet the new TBI Board

The 2008 Board of Management boasts many experienced hands and several new faces. Three of our newest board members offer some personal introductions.



### Pat Fink

Having grown up in multicultural Malaysia from a Portugese, Indian, Philipino, Chinese background, in a Catholic Taoist home, it was not difficult to make the decision to take the step into Judaism!

I have always enjoyed being part of the TBI community because of its openness, tolerance and warmth. I would very much like to see Temple continue in this way, and would like to be part of this culture of warmth and acceptance.

Having been through the conversion process 20 years ago, our *chuppah* at Leo Baeck, two children at The King David School and my son's bar mitzvah this year, I feel ready and excited to join the Board. I have been accepted, embraced and given such a sense of belonging by this community that I would like to give back, and be of service.

I feel very strongly about unity, tolerance, diversity and respect for those who are different from us. I love that Rabbi Morgan works on interfaith relations with the community at large, and would very much like to be part of that. I have a vision of peace through respect and tolerance – I believe religion is about tolerance and love.

With a personal interest in yoga, Tibetan Buddhism, and Hindusim, and having been exposed to a softer, gentler, peaceful version of Islam, I would like to work to build bridges.

### Robert Sward

I'm a middle-aged fellow who is incredibly fortunate to be married to Jennifer (for 30 years!) with two great adult children, Carly and Andrew.

I have a BSc Honours and PhD in the biological sciences and work with the Victorian Government managing its Agricultural Biotechnology policy.

My family has been linked to TBI for approximately 60 years: My mum, Miriam, and late father, Clive, were early members of the shul and were married by Rabbi Sanger at TBI in 1948. Rabbi Levi officiated at my bar mitzvah in 1963 and at our *chuppah* in 1977. Both Carly and Andrew celebrated their b'nei mitzvah at TBI.

Over the years I've always enjoyed the

sense of belonging and that feeling of calm contemplation at services in what has usually been a hectic week. I am joining the Board after thinking about it for many years, having finally put aside excuses such as work and travel obligations. I could still come up with excuses, but it's time for me to try my best to give something back to our community. My children have been part of my inspiration, watching them both give generously of themselves with particular involvements with the wider Jewish community.

I'm sure I will be well guided by some of the many committed Board members, our wonderful rabbis and other Temple members who give of themselves and whom I so often watch with great admiration.

### Rami Stiglec

'Brilliant!', 'Amazing!', 'Extraordinary!' are just some of the words people have NEVER used to describe me – conversely, they ARE some of the words that I have used to describe myself...

The TBI board, wanting significantly to reduce the average age of its members, and, after running out of other viable options, has grudgingly coopted me into their ranks. My real life experience (nine years as a university student) will be invaluable to the Board. Unwilling to trust me with anything important, a new portfolio, *Lim-mud* (Education), was created just for me – not based on any proven talents but to keep me out of trouble. I hope that TBI will survive my tenure on the Board.

Actually, I have a PhD in Comparative Genomics, have just completed my DipEd, and in 2008 I will be employed at Melbourne High School as a Biology/Chemistry teacher. My connection to the shul goes back to the years when my mother, Frances, worked at TBI as the rabbi's secretary and I was shanghai'd into performing in the Purim spiels – something I've come to enjoy enormously in recent years. I have also taught Sunday School for three years while studying in Canberra, and have tutored b'nei mitzvah students both here in Melbourne and in Canberra.

## TBI appoints Community Projects Officer

The appointment of Sue Silver as our very first Community Projects Officer is an exciting expansion of our professional base and a real mark of faith in the future of our wonderful community.

'This is a brand new position that has been created', said Sue. 'There is no job description. I have to work out what the community needs so it is quite a challenge to define the role, to find what I can best do for the community. It will be a big learning curve, working out how this unique community and organisation works.'

Sue commenced her appointment in October and has leapt into the role with both feet. She has already begun to meet and get to know as many individuals and groups as she can, with the ultimate aim of building a network with the members of the community to organise events that will suit all ages and interests.

'This might range from corporate breakfasts, hostess luncheons, film nights or film matinees during school holidays - or completely different ideas! It all depends on what members want, how I can excite them about taking part.'

'I've already sent out letters to the whole membership, introducing myself and asking for feedback, and I'll be following these with phone calls to follow up ideas and suggestions from those who have responded.'

Sue's passion for the community comes from having been born into the TBI family. Her parents, Lou and Sylvia Green, were very involved in the early days of the Temple and their love of Temple Beth Israel and the Progressive movement was passed down to Sue and her family. Sue attended our Sunday School with Rabbi Sanger, confirmation with Robyn Levi, was married to Colin Silver here, her children were b'nei mitzvah here and her daughters married in the synagogue.

Her professional experience seems to have destined her for this role. Sue comes from a background of charitable work on committees including Montefiore Homes, Odyssey House, Lady Mayoress Committee, Yooralla Society and many more. She has also worked in the corporate world of recruitment for more than 20 years, a role which refined her skills in finding the right person for the right job - and the right opportunity for the right person.

'My desire is to help make this community stronger, more vibrant, more involved.



I certainly do want to raise some money, to use it as a foundation to offer more for the whole of our community, so we can offer functions which are free.'

'But this is not merely a fundraising role. It's more important and more significant, helping to build community and assisting us to expand. I want people to meet, to become more involved and passionate, to come together to work in building our future. I want our wonderful facilities and resources to be fully utilised for our benefit.'

'We can all give', says Sue. 'Those who have the means can share their wealth. But everyone can give of themselves, share skills, talents and warmth. It's a great thing to feel one is contributing, helping to build something permanent and worthwhile.'

## Up 'n' Running



*A fortnightly event calendar for retired folk and those lucky souls with leisure time*

Alternating lively discussion mornings with outings in Melbourne.

### FABULOUS OUTINGS

**Tuesday 27 November: Movie matinee 'Angel', with Sam Neill and Charlotte Rampling**

A destitute but determined young woman living in turn-of-the-century England ascends the social ranks after authoring a series of successful romantic novels. An enjoyable, impressively directed melodrama that stays just the right side of kitsch.

We meet at 12 noon at The Classic Cinema, 9 Gordon Street, Elsternwick, for coffee before the show. Cost is \$8.50 inclusive.

### COFFEE AND CHAT

**Tuesday 11 December, 11 am**

**Guest Speaker Eitan Drori**

Join us at the Temple and hear our guest speak on the Steven Spielberg archive films. Enjoy refreshments and company.

**Put the dates in your diaries now! Call Rhonda for information on 9510-1488 and to take your place in Up 'n' Running!**

## "Hey, Hey, it's Esther Blueberger"

*Sometimes to fit in you need to stand out.*

**Be the first to see this outstanding Australian black comedy at the Classic Cinema Elsternwick**

**Our first community film night in MARCH 2008!**

13-year-old Esther navigates the pressures of family, school and her impending bat mitzvah. Convinced she was born into the wrong family, Esther secretly switches from a private school into a public school and reinvents herself.

Premier films at the Classic Cinema are accompanied by live entertainment.

For further information on the film or to join the organising team, contact Sue Silver on 9510-1488 or [sue.silver@tbi.org.au](mailto:sue.silver@tbi.org.au)



## Communicating clearly

This issue of *Temple Time* is the Chanukah issue, as well as the final edition of the bulletin for 2007. Calling it 'the Chanukah issue' is Jewishly significant; the fact that it is the last edition for 2007 is something of a coincidence.

This observation, obvious as it is, enables us to understand why the number of issues of *Temple Time* has dropped over 2007. The reason for this, as explained at the AGM, is that we experimented with a new production schedule for *Temple Time* this year. We used to follow a monthly timetable. This year we have followed the Jewish calendar rather than the civil calendar. This means that we dedicated each edition of *Temple Time* to highlight a different festival or festive season: Purim, Pesach, Shavuot, midwinter (Tisha B'Av), Tishrei (Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Simchat Torah), post-High Holydays, and finally Chanukah.

As with most changes, the decision to alter our production schedule to match the Jewish calendar has had its pros and its cons. On the negative side, it meant fewer issues of *Temple Time*, and they did not appear regularly on a monthly basis, which is more confusing for some people. On the positive side, we could use *Temple Time* to emphasise the rhythms of the Jewish year and focus on the festivals as they occurred. It also meant that we could put out bumper issues for Pesach and for the festivals of Tishrei, the major celebrations that fall at opposite ends of the Jewish year. It also meant that we could afford occasionally to print the covers in colour, which is much more attractive and eye-catching than black and white.

Some questions were raised about *Temple Time* at the AGM and these in turn opened up several concerns about the bulletin and other forms of communication that we use at TBI. Does *Temple Time* have the right balance of feature articles, news stories and community announcements? Are there too many lists of names? Since the *yahrzeit* lists are now published on the weekly Shabbat sheets, can we drop them from *Temple Time*? Is there enough attention paid in our communications to teenagers; to young adults; to Israel; to educational topics; to the distinctive features of Progressive Judaism? Are we satisfied with coverage of *Va'ad* and Board meetings, and matters of synagogue governance and policy making in general? Is the layout of our communications attractive and readable? Should there

be more humour in *Temple Time* – should we include cartoons or jokes? Would we like more photos and 'around the community' features? More member profiles? Recipes? More reviews of Jewish books or art or music? Should we be making more use of SMS or email to stay in contact? Should we invite you (yes, you!) on to the *Temple Time* editorial committee or on to the Board's marketing or communications working parties?

In order to address these issues, and others not mentioned here but on your mind, we are devoting our next Community Forum to the topic of communications at TBI. Previous Community Forums have proved to be very successful in gathering views through frank and open discussion. We draw heavily on these discussions to guide us when we tackle the difficult issues that face our diverse congregation. To this end, we strongly encourage you to come along and make your voice heard.

The Community Forum on communications at TBI will take place on the final night of Chanukah: Tuesday 11 December, 7.30 – 9pm, and it will begin in the Friedlander Bet Midrash with the lighting of the eight Chanukah candles for that evening.

We offer this Community Forum as a small Chanukah gift to TBI. *Chag Chanukah sameach!* – we wish you a happy, healthy Chanukah!

*Fred Morgan*

### Community Forum on communications at TBI

**Friedlander Bet Midrash  
Tuesday 11 December, 7.30 – 9 pm**

We will begin with the lighting of the eight Chanukah candles.

The discussion will then focus on the various communication vehicles - *Temple Time*, Shabbat sheets, email and others. Suggestions, new ideas and feedback will be welcomed. Please come and have your say!



### Shabbat Chanukah celebration

**Come and create a sea of lights  
in our shul on  
Friday 7 December at 6:15 pm**

Bring your family, your chanukiyah and five candles (four plus shammash) and we will light them all on the bima!

We will sing chanukah songs and enjoy a festive doughnut kiddush!

### Chanukah soccer charity match

The Jew Crew (*TBI Young Adults*)  
VS

The Barmi Army (*b'nei mitzvah kids*)  
for the Maccabee Cup!  
9 December from 6 pm  
in Alma Park

BBQ food and drinks  
and cheer on your team



Light the *chanukiyah* afterwards  
All proceeds will benefit  
Jewish Aid Australia

More info: [maccabee.cup@gmail.com](mailto:maccabee.cup@gmail.com)

## PURIM SPIEL

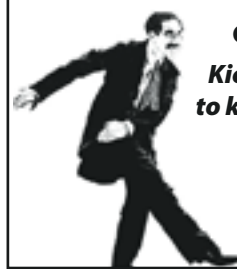
### 2008

**It's never too early  
to plan a little spieling!**

**Positions now open for cast, crew,  
writers, producers, schleppers,  
and cheer squad.**

**Call 9510-1488**

**Kick starting now  
to knock our socks  
off in 2008!**





**RABBI GERSH ZYLBERMAN**

## Tu B'shvat

**I**remember, when I was growing up, kicking the footy in Princes Park and noticing how the grass would be green some years and yellow in others.

I remember being a student at The King David School's Southwick campus on 8 February 1983, when Melbourne was blanketed by a dust cloud that blotted out the sun. We students were ushered into the school hall and watched in horror as day turned into night. One week and one day later there was Ash Wednesday. The Victorian Parliamentary record describes the day this way: 'After a record dry summer, nearly 200 fires burn across south-eastern Australia in an inferno known as Ash Wednesday. The fires claim 75 lives, 47 in Victoria.' I remember these things, years of drought and bushfires. But I don't remember ever noticing the dying trees.

The trees always seemed so robust. Their roots go deep into the soil where moisture could always be found. They always seemed hardy, used to the cycles of droughts and flooding rains of our country. But now many of them don't seem to be coping very well. The current drought has continued. Climate scientists are telling us that the human-induced change in weather patterns we are experiencing may be permanent. Time seems to be running out for us to alter our lifestyles enough to make a difference.

It is in this context that we once again find ourselves in the Jewish yearly cycle approaching the New Year of the Trees – Tu B'Shvat. In the Northern Hemisphere, where Judaism developed, the 15th of Shvat occurs towards the end of winter when the first signs of the re-emergence of life begin to appear. Little buds begin to form on the barren, fallen deciduous trees. Thus Tu B'Shvat marks the New Year for trees as they begin to reawaken from their wintry slumber. It's the birthday of all trees and in Jewish tradition the age of a tree mattered because its fruits could only be enjoyed after a certain age.

Today, regardless of where we live, Tu B'Shvat has taken on a growing urgency. The New Year of the Trees is a reminder to us of our role as stewards - not only of the trees but of our planet. A midrash teaches '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." (Kohelet Rabbah 7:13) Caring for our environment has become such a pressing issue Jewishly that at TBI we are re-doubling our efforts. Up until now environment-related issues have been taken up by our hardworking Social Justice (SJG)/Tikkun Olam group. In 2007 we undertook an environmental audit of Temple Beth Israel under the auspices of the SJG. Now, in recognition of the enormity of the climate-challenge we are forming a new group that will focus its attention on fulfilling our Jewish duty to care for the environment and will work closely with JECO (the Jewish Ecological Coalition). If you are interested in participating, please contact John Hillel on [johnhillel@yahoo.com.au](mailto:johnhillel@yahoo.com.au).

In its 60th year we must once again recognise and feel immense pride in the fact that the State of Israel has pioneered so many environmental technologies – from drip irrigation systems to solar panels. The Jewish National Fund (JNF) is increasingly turning its energies to the promotion of ecological concerns in general and the protection of the environment in Israel in particular. Our own Tu B'Shvat celebrations over the Shabbat and weekend of February 1-3 will include presentations from the JNF and the opportunity to learn about our eco-friendly Progressive Kibbutz Lotan, located in Israel's Arava Valley. Many of our Netzer leaders have spent time at Lotan and they will be helping us to get into the Tu B'Shvat spirit. More details will follow in the new year.

As Tu B'Shvat approaches we are reminded of the importance of trees and our environment in general. May this birthday of the trees bring many happy returns to us all!

### CALL TO ACTION

**The Jewish Ecological Coalition**  
*'tread lightly on the earth'*

The Jewish Ecological Coalition Inc. (JECO) is a not-for-profit organization.

JECO seeks to raise awareness about environmental issues, to actively promote ecological sustainability, and to emphasise and deepen Jewish commitment to the environment.

Temple Beth Israel is now seeking to establish our own branch of JECO, built of synagogue members who wish to express solidarity with JECO's aims and to participate in activities promoting these aims.

If you are interested or want to learn more, contact John Hillel on [johnhillel@yahoo.com.au](mailto:johnhillel@yahoo.com.au)

**Want to learn more about ecological issues?**

- [www.kibbutzlotan.com](http://www.kibbutzlotan.com)
- [www.jeco.org.au](http://www.jeco.org.au)
- [www.coejl.org](http://www.coejl.org)
- [www.jnf.org.au](http://www.jnf.org.au)

**Do you have a child who has become ultra-orthodox?**

**If so, you may be interested in joining a new discussion group for parents who share this situation.**

**For more information please contact Rabbi Zylberman [rabbi.zylberman@tbi.org.au](mailto:rabbi.zylberman@tbi.org.au)**

# Climate Change

Will Howard

**C**limate scientist Will Howard presented a green address at the Union for Progressive Judaism annual conference in Hobart, Tasmania, in October. This brief excerpt of his address is food for thought and an impetus to act.

Climate change is one of those issues in which science, politics, economics, ethics, and even spirituality intersect. Many faith communities are now engaging in the debate over climate change. Documents such as *Common Belief* and the *Interfaith Call to Action*, joint statements of many Australian faith communities (including the Jewish community) express a concern over human-induced climate change in the context of the perceived human duty to act as stewards of the earth. Judaism expresses this principle as *Tikkun Olam* or 'repairing the world.' Perhaps it is appropriate that we are discussing an issue of such global reach and long-lived impacts during a *shmita* or sabbatical year, mandated by the Torah to allow the earth to heal itself, expressing an ancient Jewish perspective on sustainability.

As a geoscientist, I work with sedimentary records of past climate change in the ocean. These geological archives give us access to the results of a set of natural experiments run over millions of years, and give the only source of information on the response of Earth systems to climate changes of similar magnitude to those we anticipate under global warming scenarios.

Some geoscientists have expressed skepticism of the idea that human activity is changing the climate of the earth. These critics are correct in noting that the climate histories archived in deep-sea sediments and glacial icesheets suggest there were warmer-than-present intervals in the past, and that cyclical changes in global climate are the dominant feature of our planet's environment of the past million years or so. However, there are also insights from those same paleoclimate records which should give us cause for concern:

- The dominant cycles driving climate arise from changes in the geometry of the Earth's orbit around the sun; the shortest such cycle is about 20 000 years long. These repeating fluctuations will probably not act fast enough to counteract the input of fossil-fuel carbon dioxide over the two centuries past and to come.

- Carbon dioxide levels are significantly higher than the highest natural levels for at least the past 600 000 years, and probably for the past 20 million years. So human activity has pushed at least one climate influence into unknown territory, and towards tipping points that may challenge our ability to adapt quickly.

- The pace of mechanisms in the global carbon cycle which redistribute carbon dioxide into the oceans, vegetation, soils, and other natural repositories mean we will probably be living with the fossil-fuel-derived greenhouse gases for centuries. We cannot just stop and be assured the natural systems will absorb the gases quickly.

- Most of the warming already in place has occurred in the upper layers of the oceans, which are a large heat sink and will retain the excess heat for a long time. Oceanic heating is not easily reversible.

- The absorption of anthropogenic carbon dioxide by the oceans has already begun to acidify the ocean. This chemical process, with still uncertain ecological impacts, is inevitable and inexorable.

- The reach of the effects of global warming will be global. Nearly every person on the planet will be affected in some way by the environmental changes under way and to come.

- Action to forestall harmful effects of human-induced global warming must begin now. But if governments are going to act, they must put effort into adaptation strategies because we have already locked in some change due to global warming.

The pattern of warming identifies the human impact. One manifestation is that the stratosphere, that part of the atmosphere above about ten kilometres, has been cooling while the troposphere, the part we live in, has been warming. This pattern is consistent with the heat-trapping action of greenhouse gases, and inconsistent with other cyclical changes which would warm the whole atmosphere, not just the lower altitudes.

It's worth taking a moment to talk about science: what it is and is not. Science

is not about consensus. Science is not about authority or credentials. The elegant theory of the highest-ranking professor can be brought down by the work of a humble grad student. Science respects no authority, only the rigour of intellectual argument and the strength of experimental or observational data. Any scientific theories, including current theories about climate, stand only on their ability to withstand the challenges and constraints of evidence.

We need to beware of a philosophical pitfall: the assumption that settling the scientific issues will make any particular policy step inevitable. Some in the pro-Kyoto camp labour under the implicit premise that if only policy makers and society at large could be convinced that global warming is real and due to human action, the Kyoto Protocol would be universally ratified and put into action. Not necessarily – climate science is not the only factor driving energy and carbon-emissions policy, and Kyoto is not the only possible carbon limitation scheme. Many solutions to global warming, such as nuclear power, carry environmental risks of their own.

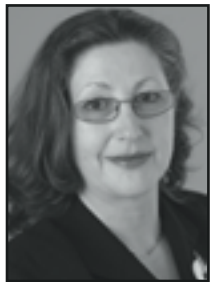
Similarly, many opponents of limitations on fossil fuel emissions seem intent on discrediting the science of global warming as a way of forestalling action. But there are other, more immediate reasons to cut back our dependence on fossil fuels, and these rationales have much more certain science behind them. Examples include local and regional pollution which pose a public health risk. Aside from environmental risks, let's not forget the geopolitical and economic risk posed by dependence on fossil fuels.

The issue of whether global warming is occurring, and if so, is attributable to human action, is a scientific question. What actions, if any, to take in response to the problem come down to political, economic, ethical, even spiritual considerations. It is possible the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) estimates of future climate are wrong, and we must accept that possibility. Although the climate puzzle is incomplete, as citizens and policy makers we have to decide: is there enough chance IPCC is right, and that the effects they predict will be harmful, to warrant action now?

## Gathering of the Progressive Community

Phyllis Dorey

**A**fter attending many Jewish conferences, seminars and workshops, here, in Israel and the US I have learned to accept that I will get up and function way earlier than is my preferred practice, and that I will only sleep again when I get back home.



As always, the conference program was packed with everything to feed the mind, soul and body: a range of challenging discussions, practical learning, networking, sharing resources, opportunities for

socialising, singing and reflection, active participation in spiritually uplifting services, in The Hobart Hebrew Congregation's 162-year-old synagogue – the oldest synagogue in continuous use, in the Southern Hemisphere, and too much food, which included Cadbury chocolates found in our welcome packs!

Conference participants included organisational presidents, members of congregations' Social Action committees, rabbis, youth directors, educators, musicians/cantors, and our Schlichim. The more than 75 participants came from all over the region including Rachel Safman, the President of the United Hebrew Congregation in Singapore; Joshua Goldman-Brown, a member of the UPJ Executive Committee and on the Executive Committee of the United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong, and members of the Hobart congregation. We were also pleased to welcome Rabbi Hillel Avidan and his wife, Ruth. Rabbi Avidan, who was born in Australia, was visiting family and friends in a number of communities around Australia; and he brought wishes from the South African Union for Progressive Judaism, where he is a member of their Executive Committee, and still serves a congregation in Durban.

The themes and topics covered relating to our lives as Jews were generated from feedback from the congregational presidents (who now meet as a group with the UPJ Executive Committee twice a year to discuss common issues of concern and contribute to policy and program development and implementation). Our rabbis and other professionals as well as congregational representatives acted as workshop facilitators,

presenters and panel members. We talked about how to accommodate and value diversity, in the context of our core values and beliefs, how to be as positively inclusive and respectful of individuals as possible; how better to value our Jewish professionals and use their skills around the region; and we noted that even though our practices and minhagim may differ, we share the same language, sounds and values.

For me the greatest outcomes of the conference were that we all experienced the positive benefits and strengths of our Union for Progressive Judaism. Certainly there are the "tangibles" we offer, such as the range of activities and programs and which are accessed and assessed by our members; and there are the less tangible benefits, often harder to see or sell! One of the benefits of UPJ membership was the leadership provided to our communities by our Executive Director, Janice Alper, and the success of this conference was a tangible

testament to her work with us over the last three years. Her absence was felt but her invaluable contributions were mentioned throughout the weekend and her greetings to us read at the AGM. Her legacy will live on through our keeping the momentum alive and continuing to offer bigger and better programs that meet the needs of individual congregations and the Union as a whole, as we had been doing when Janice was here to motivate us.

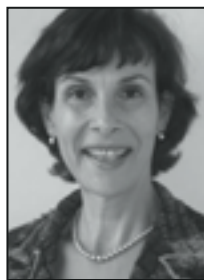
I look forward to being able to strengthen the existing partnership between the lay and rabbinic/professional leadership with mutual respect, understanding and appreciation for each other's roles, pressures and responsibilities.

My hope for us all is that we left Hobart wishing that we had had more time to be together; and that, in fact, we will carry on the conversations started there, and continue the friendships we made when we get home even if it be only by phone or email! And my heartfelt thanks go to David Robinson, the UPJ New Zealand Vice President and his team for making this year's conference the best ever!

## A Newcomer's Perspective

Rebecca Silk

**I** am a newcomer to Victoria, to the region and to Temple Beth Israel. So I was interested in the Union for Progressive Judaism conference as an opportunity to meet people from TBI and other progressive communities, to share a Shabbat with them and to learn more about being Jewish.



so many congregations, was something not to be missed.

I have presented and worked on many conferences in the past, so I was also looking forward to simply being a participant, to sitting back, learning and enjoying.

A friend from North Shore Temple Emanuel in Sydney encouraged me to go saying the wisdom of ten rabbis in one place along with office bearers working cooperatively from

So what were my overriding impressions.?

Firstly, the spirit of friendliness and kindness that pervaded the whole event. This was so from the moment of arrival when Shirley welcomed each participant with a smile, a name tag and a bag of Tassie goodies. Her husband, David, chaired the proceedings, doing a sterling job of time-keeping and morale-boosting. The work of the organising committee was evident in the way that things ran smoothly- times, food, seating, speakers and the general comfort of the delegates were all handled beautifully.

My friend had warned me that there

may be politics and murmurings within the UPJ as in any such organisation. If there were I did not notice them. I was most impressed not only that the organisers had worked hard, but that this was publicly acknowledged by Phyllis on behalf of the UPJ.

At the conference I had the opportunity to make new friends. For instance, I met and talked to David from Brisbane – a new congregation that has started up out of the intent and generosity of a very small number of congregants. I also met Ray and Maree from Perth and spoke with delegates from New Zealand, Hong Kong and Singapore as well as from the congregations in Sydney and Melbourne. It was truly a regional event with lots of opportunities to get to know people.

All three of the dinners were knockout events for me. The Thursday dinner featured Dr Will Howard, a marine biologist, speaking on climate change. He had interesting things to say and I think everyone learned from him. The highlight of the Friday dinner was the wonderful music provided by Zimra. After a delicious meal with plenty of wine they also taught us all some new songs and dances. And the Saturday Havdalla dinner was a cruise on Hobart harbour, another enjoyable experience. Last but not least the Tassie food was delicious!

The sessions that were most informative for me included the ethical challenges facing our congregations. Alan Samuel shared with the group some of his work on applying himself and his team to be true to the values of *Tzedek* (Justice), *yosher* (integrity) and *Lashan Hara* (text).

His talk flowed nicely the next day into a session on Jewish dilemmas. In this session small groups of delegates discussed real-life common dilemmas – social, administrative, interpersonal and financial – that congregations have faced. While the solutions among the groups varied there was a remarkable consensus on their value positions.

I also attended talks with the rabbis on such topics as birth, death and transitions. These were all most informative. Indeed, watching Rabbi Kamins talk on the meaning and rituals around death – eruditely and seemingly without drawing breath, was something to behold!

The panel session with Rabbi Morgan (on non-Jewish partners at B'nei Mitzvah) Rabbi Hershenson (on same-sex commitment) and Rabbi Robuck (on burial of non-Jewish partners) showed that the UPJ is certainly willing to open up and talk about



social, religious and cultural challenges.

The best session for me was the one led by Jamie Wajnberg and Yossi Cohen on celebrating Jewish life outside the synagogue. They managed not only to include a text study but also to get us involved in plasticene modelling and preparation of chocolate truffles. While some delegates were puzzled, no-one was bored!

I also found the conference to have been a prayerful experience. The Erev Shabbat service led by Rabbi Jonathan Keren-Black was a lovely start and the Shabbat service led by Rabbi Aviva Kipen was really inspiring. Cantor David Bentley along with Zimra led the music beautifully. I asked the Hobart congregant sitting beside me when the historic Hobart synagogue had last had so many people and such a service. In 1995 he said, tearfully.

The conference for me was not dull or only relevant for rabbis, staff and CEOs. I am grateful to the UPJ for giving congregants such as myself the opportunity to attend these conferences and participate in the deliberations, discussions, fun and friendship of the progressive movement.

## Letter from Camp...

Dear Mum, Dad, Deb, Ben and Cookie



Netzer camp is SOOO much fun! I'm so happy you suggested it. I'm meeting all these new people and the leaders are funny. I'm having such a good time.

At meal time it's like the opposite of school camp. Instead of the quietest table that gets to eat first, it's the noisiest! So we have to yell and cheer the most if we want to get food. We get to learn these really funny and weird chants, I'll teach you some when I get back.

The activities we do are really exciting and creative. We did one program where we all had to dress up like we lived thousands of years ago. It was so funny to see all of us wearing blankets and scarves. And there was this other one where we filled our sleeping bags with heaps of clothes and pretended to be sumo wrestlers. It was really hard to stand up, especially when you're laughing!

At night we have this thing called 'Chaverah', where we split up into small groups and chat with one of the leaders about camp and how we're going. Last night we had hot chocolate and talked under the tables like we were in a cave. It's strange how some people can be different when you get to know them in a smaller group. There was one girl I didn't really like much but it turns out she's really nice.

There are times when the whole camp gets together and has activities. For example, last night we did this crazy game where we had to rescue one of the leaders by collecting ingredients to make a potion, but the leaders would run around and stop us and take back ingredients or paint on our faces.

Oh and Shabbat was so nice! They decorated the main room to be all blue and white and we had beautiful services with lots of guitars and singing. After dinner we did more singing and dancing, it was great! I learnt how to play a few guitar chords and now I know this whole medley of about 15 songs. On Friday and Saturday we got to choose from these electives like creative writing or hiking or challah making.

I can't believe camp is nearly over, it's so sad! It's been great - and the leaders said they'd come visit us at school when the term starts again. At least that's something to look forward to! See you at TBI.

PS: Thanks for buying me the cookies and snakes beforehand, we had a party on the first night!



## Goodbye MATAN, TBI, and all subsidiaries

Jamie Wajnberg

**J**ust a few weeks ago, we read in the book of Genesis: ‘And God said to Abram, “go forth from your native land and your father’s house, to the land that I will show you.”’ In other words, ‘pick yourself up and trust me that I’ll lead you in the right direction.’



What an incredible amount of trust Abram had. What a monumental risk he took! Sure, God did promise him that he would have many descendants, and they would all be blessed, and that his name would be great. It was a fairly stunning package deal, considering that all we really know of Abram at that point was the fact that he had a few sheep to his name and was somewhat of a nomad. His father Terah had moved the family from Ur to Haran for reasons unknown, and suddenly the text of the Torah introduces us to this fellow who, as far as we, the readers, are concerned, is really no different from anyone else. That is, until we start to examine his story and realise that Abram distinguishes himself not through material possessions or political stature, but rather with a pure faith and the determination to achieve the goals set before him, even though he may not be certain of their outcome. Wow.

Fast forward to November 2004, where I was attending the annual conference of Australasian youth leaders in rural Victoria. I had just been elected to the role of Head of Education of all the Zionist Youth Movements across Australia. At the time I was working casually for TBI, assisting the youth director, and during that conference, I received a call from this colleague, letting me know he had decided to leave the position and would recommend that I be appointed to that role.

For a year, I juggled university, the youth movement education position and my new role at TBI, and then took on the position full time and had awesome fun

with it. The end of another year brought more change as my closest professional colleague departed for family reasons and I was asked to take on this second position as well.

I’m not *Avraham Avinu* or, for that matter, *Sarah Immenu*, whose life is beautifully described in a recent *parasha*, *Chayei Sarah*. But I do believe that they set a beautiful example for all Jews, which is most likely why they are the first and certainly most remarkable of our Patriarchs and Matriarchs. They had nothing handed down to them; they simply took the plunge, and created their own history, which has become our heritage and our ongoing challenge and inspiration.

I am leaving TBI after five years. My fiancé, Ilan Zimmer, and I plan to make aliyah in the year in which we celebrate the first 60 years of the existence of the modern Jewish state, the homeland to which Abram was led so many thousands of years ago. It took an incredible amount of courage, of faith, of trust in another being to do so. In this sense, I really do feel close to Abram. Similarly, Temple Beth Israel, with its Board, rabbis, staff and, most importantly, its congregants, kindly reached its hand out to me five years ago. Along the way, like Abram’s story, I have been faced with numerous challenges from which I have learnt. I can only hope I have risen to the occasion as honourably as he and displayed the *derech erez* which Abram imparted to us as the correct way to be. And I, too, will shortly change my name when I partake in a different sort of holy union.

In the next part of Abram’s story, he bargains with God. This is where I feel Abram and I really are kindred spirits – what awesome *chutzpah!* After you have declared complete faith in this being, trusted it with your life, you then start negotiating over a given task? Abe, you champion. Once again, Abraham inspired me to push the envelope.

Finally, Abraham (as he was called by that point) was called to the biggest challenge of all – to place his son, his beloved

son Isaac, his hope for the future generations, on the altar for sacrifice. I certainly haven’t had to face anything nearly as gruesome, but I hope I have risen to the occasion on behalf of your children, who attend our Religion School, MATAN. Having no formal background in education but the years of youth movement experience, it was a real test the day I was asked to take up the position of education director for this year. I have sweated every single moment of it, in order to try to achieve the best results possible in my *chutzpatik*, rambling wanderer sort of way. I thank you, parents, for placing your trust in me, and to Rabbis Morgan, Zylberman and Gevurtz for so ably guiding me along this journey and trusting me in the way that you have. You rarely get thanked for your collegiality, and I’d like to do that now.

### Thank you

Firstly, to Kathy Kaplan, who reminded me in my first week here that I was hired to be me and to do the job to the best of my abilities, not someone else’s. To Helen Gradman, who taught me the majority of a Dip. Ed course in just under six hours – thanks Aunty Hel! To all of the b’nei mitzvah tutors over the past three years, thank you so much for all your work, your patience and love that you have shown to every student and the way that you acted as such fine ambassadors for our community. To the MATAN staff of 2007 – Sheryl Topol, Karli Jacobs, Kath Cozens, Martine Payne, Nicky Rose, Raph Ajzensztat, Sam Heselev, Adam Wajnberg and Olivia Metter – you are the people who really make MATAN, ‘the gift of Jewish learning’, a place where the future of this community is not only informed, but inspired. You are paid to teach; you choose to care.

To Yossi, Tam, Mel and Alex, our awesome foursome junior chazzanim who for almost two years now have given our community joy and the musical delight; to Leesa, Jazzy and Rosie, who will be joining them up on the bima soon; to Rhondda Hall and Bruce Levin for being the cantorial backbone of those services.

To all members of Young TBI and to Netzer, who never fail to desecrate my office on Wednesday nights but remind me where



I come from. To shlichim Yossi Cohen and Yonatan Sacker for challenging me to keep thinking, laughing, and reminding me of the importance of personal example.

And finally, the office crew – Jana, Oonagh, Zoi, Yvonne, Rob, David, Hannah, Claire & Mila for your tolerance and to Alan Samuel, who has taken every tie and senior citizen joke and threw back quips about my height, whilst giving me the freedom and financial resources to keep on my merry way. To Rhonda Nirens, whom I have known since I was about six and have been privileged to call my friend and colleague. Like Abraham, Rhonda recognises the importance of hospitality and caring for others in all that she does.

My deep gratitude to Janice Alper, who took me on as a 'mentee' and whose support and guidance were paramount to my development professionally and personally.

It has been such an honour and pleasure to be part of this community which will certainly always be my home. Thank you all for the past five years.

## TBI office hours over summer

The TBI office will be open throughout the summer holiday period. During the last week of December and the first week of January 2008 the office will be open between 9 am – 3 pm.

Shabbat services will be held as always, at 6:15 pm on Friday and 10 am on Saturday.

## Tu B'Shvat celebrations at TBI

1 – 3 February, 2008

*A full weekend of food-fests, talks and activities to celebrate Tu B'Shvat, with a program focusing Kibbutz Lotan and ecological issues in Israel.*

### Friday night, 1 February, 6:15 pm:

Netzer-style Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by an Oneg Shabbat dinner celebrating Israel's land and produce.

### Saturday morning, 2 February at 10 am:

Focus on environmentalism and Kibbutz Lotan with guest Benji Maor, JNF education shaliach and a founding member of Kibbutz Lotan, a Progressive kibbutz in the Arava.

### Sunday morning, 3 February:

Israeli-style breakfast for all ages, hosted by Netzer.

### Sunday evening, 3 February:

Limmud program with Benji Maor hosted by the Union for progressive Judaism, focusing on environmentalism in Israel.

*As we go to press, we are still developing the program of activities to be stimulating and fun for all ages. Look out for more details as they come to hand on the Shabbat newsheets or call the TBI office on 9510 1488.*

# 60 MACHANE SHISHIM

## Netzer Summer Camp

Federal Senior Camp  
(yr 10 – yr 12 in 2008)  
5 – 15 January in Sydney  
Andrew 0439 004 519

Junior Summer Camp  
(yr 3 – yr 9 in 2008)  
22 – 27 January  
Simon 0406 582 232

## Netzer Weekly!

Every Sunday a group of kids get together at TBI and do what few people have the privilege to do. For two hours we sing, dance, laugh and play while learning about Israel, Judaism and how to make the world a better place. The meetings are free and run by a wonderful group of enthusiastic university students who understand the importance of inspiring Jewish youth.

**Every Sunday in November for kids in gr 3 – yr 12. Call Claire 0402-893-763 or email [melbournenetzer@netzer.org.au](mailto:melbournenetzer@netzer.org.au)**

## Netzer Sleepover

**Come to the Grade 2, 3 and 4 sleepover 24 November, 6 pm at TBI**

Are you in grade 2 and would like to see what Netzer is before camp? Come to meet everybody, play games, eat lollies, have a great time and your parents can get all the info about camp. For more information call Jordy 0421-618-632

## Netzer-style minyan

**Friday 7 December and the first Friday of every month at 6:15 pm upstairs in the Magid Resource Centre.**

If you are interested in a fun, relaxed gamutlich kabbalat shabbat service, Netzer style, with guitar accompaniment for our *t'fillot* (prayers) then please join us.

## Holiday Reading Enjoyment

Jean Zemel

**I**t's summer time again – time to play catch-up with some leisurely reading. With this in mind, here are a few tempting titles selected for your reading enjoyment. No heavy study texts, the books selected are mainly from our collection on contemporary fiction, diaspora Jewry and biographical memoirs.

We begin with two noteworthy books, celebrating the writers themselves.

*'The Babel Guide to Jewish Fiction'*, with inviting and engrossing reviews of 150 new and old Jewish classics (novels and short stories) by 80 Jewish authors from around the world.

*'The Trial of Judaism in Contemporary Jewish Writing'* is a most readable critique of the writings of Malamud, Roth, Bellow, Singer, Sachs, Schwartz-Bart and Wiesler and their contribution to this particular theme and literary genre. An immensely satisfying read.

For readers who enjoy a more visual presentation together with some interesting Jewish history, two lavishly illustrated books, focusing on historical aspects of Jewish life from two diverse corners of the diaspora:

In the first – *'Victorian Jews through British Eyes'* by Anne and Roger Cowen – the authors have selected nearly 150 illustrations, with commentary, from Victorian illustrated magazines such as the *Illustrated London News*, *Punch* and *The Graphic* to show how Jewish subjects were presented to Victorian readers and to provide a new source to illustrate the social history of Victorian Jews, especially in Britain.

The second book, *'Jewish San Francisco'* by Rabbi Edward Zerlin (who visited Temple Beth Israel in recent months and in gratitude inscribed his book for our Library) is similarly portrayed, using vintage images from private collectors to provide this vivid photographic history. In his introduction the author says – *'Jewish San Francisco'* is a pictorial update of what started in 1848 and continues into the 21st century. I invite you to mine the past and traverse the present, to explore San Francisco's cultural treasures, and meet a socially responsive Jewish community'.

*'New Under the Sun – Jewish Australians on Religion, Politics & Culture'*, edited by Michael Fagenblat et al, offers a range of essays from contributors such as Robert Manne, Ruth Ostrow, Arnold Zable, Andrea Goldsmith, John Safran, Marcus

Einfield, Julie Szego and our own Rabbi Fred Morgan. This anthology takes a snapshot of today's Jewish Australians and analyses the issues they face in the twenty-first century.

*'The Prosperous Thief'*, a novel by Andrea Goldsmith, is highly recommended reading. It tells the story of Heini Heck and the Lewin family – the two opposing sides of the Holocaust which intersect, and the impact this has on their children as the story moves forward in time to the present day. The novel raises big questions without slipping into sentimentality or losing the thread of the story. You'll find it difficult to put this book down!

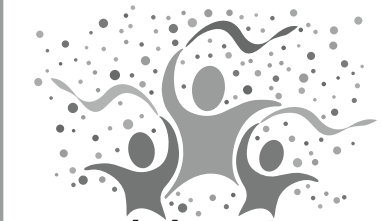
Here are some other suggestions of great and enjoyable reads. They have featured in previous reviews in *Temple Time*, and have been discussed at our earlier Book Circle Reading Group

- *'For the Relief of Unbearable Urges'* by Nathan Englander;
- *'Fugitive Pieces'* by Anne Michaels;
- *'My First Sony'* by Benny Barbash
- *'Chosen by God – A Brother's Journey'* by Joshua Hamman
- *'When I Lived in Modern Times'* by Linda Grant
- *'Three Dollars'* by Elliot Perlman
- *'Miriam's Kitchen'* by Elizabeth Ehrlich

For readers interested in the writings of Jacob Rosenberg, the Library is pleased to be holding a copy of his autobiographical memoir *'East of Time'* published in 2005, which won the 2006 New South Wales Premier's Award for non-fiction and the 2007 National Biography Award. Its sequel *'West of Sunrise'*, launched earlier this year, has received wide acclaim, a copy of which is also held in our Library..

All these books are available on the display shelves in our Temple Library and can be borrowed on request. Loan periods are for three weeks, renewable upon request, but more generous loan times can be arranged to cover the holiday season when the office is closed. Happy Reading.

THE KING DAVID SCHOOL  
A unique school of thought



### Celebrating Our Community

An invitation to all friends of the KDS community to celebrate the school's 30th anniversary

Sunday 18 November

4 - 7 pm

Southwick Campus

117 Kooyong Road Armadale

Enjoy fabulous entertainment and an array of food representing the diverse cultures that make up our wonderful school community: from Israeli to Australian; from South African to Russian plus the many other cultures that make The KingDavid School unique.

- It's FREE — including coffee & cake!
- BYO picnic or buy delicious Israeli falafel

#### ENTERTAINMENT BY...

- Zebra Crossing African Jazz
- Starr Brother Jazz
- The Stiletto Sisters

...with performances showcasing the talents of our King David students and a special appearance on stage by some King David alumni.

#### PLUS...

- Roving performers from National Institute of Circus Arts
- Games run by Netzer
- Israeli Dancing

Any enquiries, please contact Helen Midler on 9527 0103 or [helen.midler@kds.vic.edu.au](mailto:helen.midler@kds.vic.edu.au)

## Who is a Rabbi?

Rabbi Michael Marmur

**I**n early November the former President of the State of Israel received the Heller Prize in a ceremony attended by the leadership of the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), some seventy of whom flew in to attend meetings and ceremonies in Israel. Rabbi Marmur published these reflections before the event:

**W**hat makes this encounter special is the relationship between the Office of the President of Israel and the Progressive movement worldwide. Israel's immediate past President was, by all accounts, a deeply pious individual. One way in which his religious fervour came to expression was his longstanding refusal to call a Progressive rabbi by the title 'rabbi'.

I happen to know that this is the case, since it once fell to me to conduct a negotiation with the former President's staff. We were looking into the possibility of a similar delegation paying a visit to the President, along with the tens of Rabbinic, Cantorial and Education students. The official with whom I was negotiating informed me that President Katzav would not call the President of the Hebrew Union College by the title 'Rabbi'. After an enlightening discussion, she then asked me if I could give her the name of an Orthodox rabbi who would agree to call my boss by the title rabbi. Without hesitating, I gave her the name of a prominent Orthodox rabbi who, to the best of my knowledge, would be happy to bestow this title upon Rabbi Ellenson. After a pause, she asked: could you give me another name?

I could have given several other names – there are many Orthodox rabbis 'out there' who call their non-Orthodox colleagues by the R word. But at that point I decided that enough was enough. We thought better of paying a visit to a President who refused to acknowledge our own self-understanding, and the belief of millions of Jews.

Why does this matter? After all, Rabbi David Ellenson could have gone by his other title of Professor, or President, or – as anyone who knows him will affirm – David. The issue at stake here was not about asking Orthodox Jews for recognition. I have no interest in doing such a thing. I doubt that an Orthodox Jew can in good conscience attribute equal validity to a non-Orthodox rabbi. In the view of many Orthodox Jews, we are either misguided innocents or heinous perverters of the truth. The Orthodox

rabbis who decide to call non-Orthodox rabbis by that title are usually being polite (an underrated Jewish virtue), and in some cases their view of the rabbinate may allow them to use the term wholeheartedly.

But I have no interest in trying to persuade anyone to call me a rabbi if they don't think I am one. We become rabbis when we believe we may be able to dare to take on such a responsibility, and when our ordaining institution deems us to be worthy. We are really recognised when those whom we serve look to us as rabbis. We have to earn that title, and it cannot be forced upon anyone.

So, what's the 'Big Deal'? The 'Big Deal' is that here the State of Israel comes into the picture. When the titular Head of State declines to recognise the largest Jewish denomination in the world as legitimate in its own terms, the State of Israel loses its mandate to represent the Jewish People as a whole. By making this right, President Peres is making a major statement on what is usually a cliché but always a necessity – the unity of the Jewish people.

It matters very little to me what you call me when you pass me in the street. If I become worthy in your eyes to be called a rabbi in Israel, then you ordain me every day anew. And if you think I'm a stinker or a fool or in league with the devil, then I guess rabbi may be out of the question.

It matters a great deal to me, however, what the President of the State of Israel calls our rabbis. If the name of the game in Israel is Monopoly, and if anyone outside that monopoly is invisible, then I fear that Israel will not fulfil its historic task. The State of Israel needs to forge an unbreakable bond with the Jews outside Israel, and the burgeoning number within, who look to non-Orthodox rabbis for spiritual leadership.

If all goes according to plan the President of the State of Israel, a great man and a visionary for the Israel of tomorrow, will call my boss 'Rabbi'. Then we will all go off to do an even more significant thing:

## Revival of a Jewish community in Bendigo

**I**ndefatigable TBI members Howard Nathan and Sarah Austin have joined forces to revive the Jewish community of Bendigo.

**Kehillat S'Dot Zahav** called a minyan together on 17 November 2007, the first formally conducted service after a lapse of 87 years and 153 years after the first congregation was established in Bendigo. This service was conducted by our own Rabbis Rayna Gevurtz and Gersh Zylberman, who travelled to Bendigo under the auspices of the Union for Progressive Judaism for the occasion. A Torah scroll from the TBI Ark made the journey with our rabbis.

Sarah Austin and The Honorable Howard Nathan, a former Supreme Court Justice, both now live in the Bendigo environs and were moved to reconvene the congregation to assist in re-establishing and building a vital, all-encompassing Progressive Jewish life in Bendigo.

Now there is an additional attraction for a weekend away in Bendigo: you can attend the Kehillat S'Dot Zahav services, greet some familiar faces from the TBI family and assist in the revival of the goldfields Jewish community.

Further information from Howard Nathan at [tomtruck@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tomtruck@optusnet.com.au) or Sarah Austin at [sarahdaustin@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sarahdaustin@optusnet.com.au)



Rabbi Ellenson will place his hands upon the heads of two women and three men and ordain five new Israeli rabbis.

You can call them what you like. Israel should call them rabbis.

*Rabbi Michael Marmur is Dean of HUC-JIR*

## Spotlight on a TBI dynasty

Rhonda Nirens

**At the recent TBI AGM it was pointed out to me by two wonderful, devoted and dedicated sisters that in the history of TBI there have been only two families who have had three generations serve on the Board of Management.**

One of the families were the Lustig / Gorog families where Kurt Lustig served on the Board during the 1980-81, then Jenny Gorog (2005 & 2006) and, finally, Michelle Lazarow (nee Gorog). Tom Gorog also served as Treasurer in the 1990s.

The other family is the Eisinger/Wayne family. Lotte Eisinger-Philipp, who was a cousin of Kurt's, also served on the Board during the 1960s, her granddaughter, Fairlie Wayne, joined the Board last year, and now Karen Wayne, Lotte's daughter has also joined the Board.

After spending some time chatting with Lotte, the dedication, love and commitment this family have for Temple was very obvious. Lotte began coming to the Temple house, as it was known in those days, in the 1940s as a teenager. Then in 1950s, after their marriage, Lotte and Eric joined Temple Beth Israel. Lotte helped with the children, teaching, and she also served on the education committee. She was also involved with the very active and high profile Women's Guild for a while.

As far back as I can remember, Lotte and her daughters, Denise Same and Karen Wayne, have been a constant presence at TBI, whether it be at festivals, services or giving help where it was needed. Denise and Karen were often asked to light the candles at erev Shabbat services, which they attended very regularly. Always available to assist when required, it was just about taken for granted that 'if you can't find someone to do something, ask the Eisinger girls!'

Both Denise and Karen had their confirmations at Temple. Karen and Victor Wayne were the last couple Rabbi Sanger married. They were, and are, a family who are totally committed to Temple life. Lotte is also very involved with the Raul Walenberg unit of B'nai Brith.

Lotte spoke with such pride about her family. Denise, who is very active in the setting up and running of the Dementia Support Group, is often called upon to partake in reading at festivals and always has such a welcoming presence about her. Karen regularly hosts school groups who visit TBI, teaching non-Jewish students

about Progressive Judaism and about our synagogue. And now there is a third generation, Lotte's grandchildren – Josh, Romy and Dan (Denise's children) and Fairlie and Stephanie (Karen's children). Lotte's face glowed as she spoke about them, her love and pride in their achievements and devotion to family shone through.

Fairlie has found the time whilst studying medicine to join the TBI Board and has made such an effort to get to know and understand the various groups and activities within the Temple. She always greets congregants with a warm and inviting smile and makes everyone feel welcome. Her action seems to have inspired her mother, and we are now lucky enough to have Karen also join the Board. Karen's enthusiasm and passion will certainly make her a great asset to our Board of Management.

Lotte spoke about 'laying the base' for her family – she has certainly instilled in her children and grandchildren a strong love of Judaism and a commitment to Temple Beth Israel. Lotte has never sought thanks for all that she has done and still does – she quietly goes about helping and supporting those around her. How lucky we are that we have such a wonderful family in our midst.

### Specialising in the Soul or why would a nice Jewish doctor want to become a rabbi?

Rabbi Zylberman graduated with a medical degree from Monash University and then changed careers. He was ordained as a rabbi at the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in May, 2005. Why was that?

Wednesday 28 November, 7:30 pm  
Temple Beth Israel  
82 Alma Road St Kilda 3182  
RSVP for catering purposes on  
9817-3848

*Hosted by the Council of Christians  
and Jews Victoria*

## TBI Network

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

Seniors wishing to have a couple of hours of companionship in a very low-key, relaxed atmosphere are encouraged to come along to enjoy tabletop games, chat and refreshments, and a knitting circle keeps very busy. Second and fourth Wednesdays monthly at 10:30 am.

**Dates for 2008: 23 & 30 Jan, 13 & 27 Feb, 12 & 26 Mar**

### TELECHAT

**A second phone tree of Telechat is in the making for 2008!**

Telechat offers senior members of our community the opportunity to stay in touch with one another. The original, ongoing Telechat phone group has been very successful and this expansion will again offer regular telephone conversations on a voluntary basis. The regular contact can help people, particularly the housebound, to feel valued and involved in a two-way process.

We would be delighted to hear from if you would like to have someone call you regularly or if you would like to participate in calling others. Contact Sue Morgan on 9596 6826 or the TBI office 9510 1488 to express your interest.

### DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

This Jewish support group for family and carers of people living with dementia meets at TBI every six weeks or so. Three social workers conduct the meetings, hosting guest speakers. The DSG offers companionship, support and provides helpful information to carers.

**Dates for 2008 are: 11 Feb, 31 Mar, 12 May, 23 Jun, 11 Aug, 22 Sep, 27 Oct, 8 Dec.**

Meetings are in the Friedlander Synagogue, TBI, 7:30 – 9 pm. For information, call the Temple office on 9510-1488

**Do you have  
a major family  
event coming up?**

**Consider sharing it with  
your community by  
sponsoring a kiddush.  
Two levels available:  
\$250 or \$500**

## Bar None awards nomination for TBI contribution

The Temple Beth Israel community has been nominated by Central Bayside Adult Community Options for an award that recognises organisations that have brought about positive change for people with disabilities.

The Bar None Awards - 'we believe in a world where everyone can take part' - are an initiative of the Office of Disability together with Leader Newspapers.

The nomination was, in part, due to the wonderful work of Dot Nathan and her volunteers at the Drop In and Chat group who are particularly thoughtful in ensuring people with disabilities can attend and are welcomed to social activities, as well as the special festival services provided by Rabbi Morgan with Sylvie Jona for people with disabilities.

**MATAN**  
the gift of Jewish  
learning



Matan Hebrew,  
Jewish Studies and Religion  
school classes will be held on  
**TUESDAYS** in 2008!

Term 1 commences on  
Tuesday 5 February

Have you enrolled your child?  
Enrolments are open now.

Call Jamie Wajnberg  
on 9510 1488

## Teaching Torah

*Be part of the process of giving!*



*Teaching Torah is the glue that holds Am Yisrael together. Dor L'dor – from generation to generation we pass on our heritage.*

Can you read Hebrew and are willing to learn new skills? Then come and join our incredible team of B'nei Mitzvah tutors at Temple Beth Israel. You will be guided through all the specifics of the teaching process and all materials will be provided.

For information, call 9510-1488



**First and third Tuesday monthly  
4 & 18 December,  
then recommencing for 2008 on 15 January  
10:30 – 11:30 am at Temple Beth Israel**

Join Rabbi Rayna Gevurtz in our new monthly babies group right here at TBI! Grab yourself a bagel, then sit down, relax and get to know other Temple families with littlies. Each month we have a different Jewish surprise to keep things lively.

contact [rabbi.gevurtz@tbi.org.au](mailto:rabbi.gevurtz@tbi.org.au) or call 9510-1488

## Call for Survivor Participants in a Musical study

Joseph Toltz, Cantor and Director of Pastoral Care at Emanuel Synagogue in Sydney (formerly Temple Emanuel) is undertaking a PhD in music, focusing on any musical recollections of time spent in ghetto, in camp, in hiding or in partisan groups. He wishes to document, record, conserve and analyse musical memories of Jewish survivors of Concentration, Labour, Transit and Death camps and Ghettos under the control of the Nazis and their puppet allies from 1939-1945, and also musical memories from partisan groups. This study will function as a commemorative ethnographical project, focusing on musical life in the Holocaust.

He is interested in any melodies survivors may recollect; musical experiences; folk tunes (no matter the language), songs both subversive and resistant, forced marching tunes and other such experiences.

Cantor Toltz will be Melbourne to conduct interviews between 28 November and 18 December. If you are willing to participate and let him record your musical story, please call him on 0409 448 616 or on the email, [joeandal@optusnet.com.au](mailto:joeandal@optusnet.com.au)

This study has met with approval from the Human Research Ethics Committee of the University of Sydney (documentation can be supplied on request). If you would like to know a bit more about me, Rabbi Fred Morgan and Rabbi John Levi know me well and can vouch for my sensitivity and musical knowledge.

Copies of all reports presented at the Temple Beth Israel Annual General meeting are available on the TBI website [www.tbi.org.au](http://www.tbi.org.au) or the Temple office on 9510 1488.

*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+

**23 November** (not December or January) and the **fourth Friday night** of each month, join a diverse 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. No need to RSVP.

If you're keen, join the organisers to prepare the meal!

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



## SHABBAT ALIVE!

**23 November** (not December or January) and the **fourth erev Shabbat** of each month, welcome Shabbat with drums and cymbals, guitars, singing, vibrant rhythms and the energy of our junior chazzanim!

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

## A life free from violence and fear

Bev Restein

**O**n Shabbat 29 September Bev Restein spoke to the Temple community about the scourge of domestic violence, providing a hopeful message of how we can attain a life free from violence for all our families.

'Safety and security don't just happen; they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children – the most vulnerable citizens in any society – a life free from violence and fear. In order to ensure this, we must become tireless in our efforts not only to attain peace, justice and prosperity for countries, but also for communities and members of the same family'. *Nelson Mandela, 2002 world report on health and violence.*

Family violence is being described as one of our great humanitarian disasters – typically it is violent, threatening and repeated use of coercive or controlling behaviour that occurs within families or intimate relationships. This conduct, whether physical, emotional or sexual, causes severe and long-term damage to everyone in the family.

Although women have been known to be controlling and violent, the greater

percentage of this violence is perpetrated by the male partner in the relationship.

A VicHealth report in 2003 found that family violence is the leading contributor to death, disability and illness in Victorian women aged between 15 and 44.

Family violence affects 1 in 5 women during their lifetime, regardless of age, socioeconomic status, culture, ability, ethnicity or religion and it *always* has a hugely detrimental effect on the children.

A national study has found that around a quarter of young Australians witness family violence, and that this was the most significant predictor for young people becoming violent in their own relationships.

Other forms of family violence include child abuse, sibling abuse, violence perpetrated by adolescents against parents – usually single mothers – abuse of the elderly, abuse of the disabled and same-sex violence.

Some forms of family violence, for example, physical and sexual assault, stalking and harassment, are against the law. However, other abusive behaviours, which are not recognised as criminal but are just as damaging, include emotional, psychological, verbal, financial, social and spiritual abuse.

*The Jewish Taskforce Against Family Violence* was formed 13 years ago, in response to a victim of family violence who could not find the help she needed. There was a general assumption that family violence did not exist in the Jewish Community.

Today, the *Taskforce* is a vibrant and proactive volunteer organisation, comprising professionals from legal, educational, medical, social work, psychology and media backgrounds, who work as a cohesive team to bring awareness of this sensitive and painful social issue and to reduce the shame and stigma that are often associated with it.

Over the years, the Taskforce has actively advanced community education and awareness by organising instructive forums, presented by local and internationally renowned experts, as well as educational initiatives, utilising creative tools such as

theatre and the arts.

We have especially devoted many programs towards school-age children promoting the recognition of healthy relationships, attempting to ensure that young people interact with mutual respect and dignity, which would in turn go a long way towards the creation of safe, happy homes in the future.

Our ongoing services include facilitating sexual assault awareness and prevention programs within all Jewish day schools at every level, workshops for mainstream service providers to enhance the understanding of Jewish cultural needs.

Our experience over time has shown us that it is essential that a culturally sensitive and Jewish specific response be available to all Jewish families from all sectors of the community.

The Taskforce has recently taken the next step in providing a practical and safe means of support to victims of violence. The Jewish Taskforce Support Line, staffed by 20 highly trained responders who represent the broad spectrum of our diverse community, is a safe, confidential and anonymous service, which allows vulnerable members of our community to reach out for help and understanding without the fear of repercussions. It is coordinated by a highly qualified psychologist, and every shift is under the guidance of an experienced team leader.

Our grateful thanks to Temple Beth Israel and the social justice group for aligning with the Taskforce Against Family Violence in creating awareness and effecting change.

**SUPPORT LINE: 95232100**  
**MON AND WED: 9AM – 1PM**  
**TUES AND THURS: 5PM – 9PM**

## White Ribbon Day

**Sunday 25 November is White Ribbon Day, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.**

The TBI Social Justice Group has arranged for white ribbons to be available from the TBI office, and we encourage members of the community to come into the office to get a ribbon and wear it on the day. If we all stand up in unison and say that we don't condone violence against women, we can be agents of change.

### Temple Time Mailbag

CAUTION REQUESTED FOR CAR PARK USERS

I visited TBI recently on a weekday mid-afternoon. It was at the time parents were collecting their youngsters from the kindergarten. I noticed one parent reversing her car very quickly from her parking space; another drove down the ramp at more than the recommended speed.

This type of driving puts everyone at risk in such a confined space...the children, other parents, the teachers, the security staff, the TBI staff and other visitors.

My message to all drivers...please drive slowly – cautiously – carefully... for everyone's sake.

FROM A CONCERNED TBI CONGREGANT

Temple Time welcomes feedback from our readers. Please send your letter to: **Temple Time Mailbag, PO Box 128 St Kilda, 3182** or email [zoi.juvris@tbi.org.au](mailto:zoi.juvris@tbi.org.au)

## TBI members are honoured for their work

The TBI family is made up of some wonderful individuals whose work is worthy of wide acknowledgement. Recently, Philip Mayers, Dot Nathan and Sue Mendelson have been recognised for their contributions to the Jewish community – and Rabbi Levi’s scholarship receives further acknowledgement!

### Rabbi Dr John Levi



Rabbi Dr John Levi AM DD PHD has just had conferred his **third doctorate**, this time for his seminal work on early Australian Jewish History which culminated in

the book *Shemot or These are the Names*. In fact, it is the second doctorate to have been awarded to him from the Arts faculty of Monash University. The scholarship behind the book and his thesis has had its genesis in his early passion for the story of his family and the history of our nation.

Rabbi Levi’s retirement is filled with teaching at The King David School, Melton and various other communal bodies. He is active in the Australian Jewish Historical Society and his interfaith work is legendary around the world. At present Rabbi Dr Levi is busy with his latest writing venture, a biography of Rabbi Dr Herman Sanger.

### Philip Mayers



Philip is being honoured three times during the month of November by various parts of the Jewish community. He is receiving the **JCCV Community Service Award**, he will be made an **Honorary Life Governor by Jewish Care** for the continuing work that he has done for Jewish Care since he left the position as Executive Director of the Montefiore Homes in the late 1980s and, thirdly, Philip has been awarded the prestigious **Vatik Award from the Union for Progressive Judaism** at the recent UPJ conference. The Vatik Award is given to a person who has been a president of a congregation and who has continued to do exemplary work for the congregation and community.

Philip has served as President of TBI, Chair of the Victorian Union for Progressive Judaism and has been a delegate on behalf of the Progressive movement on the

boards of a number of Jewish communal roof bodies.

Philip currently chairs the Community Relations committee for the State Zionist Council of Victoria, he serves as President of the Make A Wish Foundation Australia and sits on a number of other charitable boards. Philip Mayers is a lifelong advocate of Progressive Judaism and exemplifies Progressive Jewish values.

### Dorothy Nathan



Dot, as she is affectionately known by all, has been awarded the **Union for Progressive Judaism Ner Tamid award**.

We would be hard-pressed to find someone who fits the criteria more perfectly. Dot is truly an ‘Unknown Soldier’ of the Progressive Jewish community in Melbourne; she has been the backbone of TBI’s Caring Community program for the past eight years; her loyalty and commitment to Progressive Judaism is unparalleled; and she has never held office or been formally recognised for her work apart from being honoured as our Kallat Torah at Simchat Torah two years ago.

Dot identifies so strongly with our values and concerns that there is hardly an event or program that she has not supported. She is the founder and coordinator of the *Caring Community Circle*, organising hospital and home visits, identifying and training volunteers, communicating with staff and rabbis and carrying out several hours of visits per month herself.

Dot started *Drop In and Chat* for elderly incapacitated members and has coordinated it now for six years. Another area that has concerned Dot is the high incidence of depression, anxiety, dementia and similar mental health problems. As a result of her persistence and drive, TBI held a series of panel discussions and seminars to address these issues, and she then worked tirelessly to set up a self-help group for those caring for loved ones with dementia. Three

years on, the group is run by professionals but Dot continues to coordinate it and her behind the scenes involvement has been crucial to its success.

Dot has also played an important role in TBI’s highly successful Social Justice Group, coming up with her own projects and giving active moral and practical support to others’ projects.

And there is her work as a loyal, reliable member of our Shammash team. Her commitment to Progressive Judaism and pride in its values is demonstrated in all aspects of her life.

### Sue Mendelson



Sue Mendelson was awarded a **State Zionist Council Victoria Community Volunteer Award** for her work for the Public Speaker’s bureau of the SZCV.

So far this year the SZCV speaker’s bureau has reached over 5000 people and Sue plays a pivotal role in the service. She regularly hosts groups through various aspects of Israel and Jewish culture. She has reached and enthused many groups of non-Jewish people with her passionate talks. She truly represents Hasbara at the grass roots level at its very best.

Sue Mendelson has for many years introduced Judaism and Israel to wide groups of people throughout Victoria. This work began when she agreed to assist with groups visiting Temple Beth Israel where her enthusiasm for all things Jewish, especially Israel, was imparted to many who had not had any previous experience with Jewish people or Jewish practices and beliefs.

We congratulate Philip Mayers, Dot Nathan, Sue Mendelson and Rabbi Levi on the just recognition of their work and wish them *Mazal Tov* and *Kol Hakavod!*

### Shabbat honours

Please join our worship service on **Saturday 2 February 2008 at 10 am** to acknowledge and honour Philip Mayers and Dorothy Nathan, who will be called to the Torah and presented with their UPJ Awards; and Rabbi Dr John Levi who will be called to the Torah in acknowledgement of his second Doctorate.

# Smachot

## RECENT BIRTHS

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

- **Delilah Arielle Rose** (daughter for Natalie Lewit & Jason Rose, granddaughter for Joe Lewit & Ruja Varon, great granddaughter for Maria Lewitt)
- **Miriam Thelma Samuel** (daughter for Joshua & Karen Samuel; granddaughter for Ian & Shayndel Samuel)

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS

*(18 November – 6 January) Mazal tov on celebrating a special birthday to:*

- Ronald Aarons • Yona Abish • Alwyn Abraham • Henri Alkalai • Avraham Appel • Deany Arnheim • Ami Barda • Olga Brooke • Halina Chazan • Hershal Cohen • Andrew Davis • Jackie Dinor • Rose Dobos • Lea Donald • Tessa Dowe • Betty Drillich • Margot Eger • Anne Felder • Simon Frenkel • Les Fuerst • Victor Goldenfein • Paula Goldman • Yossi Goodman • Joe Greenberg • Daniel Gurvich • Zara Halprin • Stella Harris • Jeremy Hearst • Andrew Hegedus • Irene Hendel • Robert Hershman • Nicole Hipolito • Lolo Jackson • Sarah Jacob • Sylvia Joachim • Joshua Kalmus • Renee Kern • Samuel Kiffer • Karen Kirkham • Joshua Koadlow Cohen • Yehudit Koadlow • Shirley Koadlow • Sharon Kuperholz • Fay Landau • Paul Loewy • Charlotte Lubin • David Lurie • Joy Mariner • Etta Maver • Rosemary Metz • Ben Morawetz • Ruth Mote • Roman Nakhames • Debbie Opat • Debbie Page • Tom Rado • Henry Rothfield • Irene Rozenal • Daniel Same • Kurt Schwarz • Jeannie Segal • Dionne Shalit • Jonathan Shiff • Neil Slonim • Sarah Steen • Leon Steinkoler • Aviva Taft • Andrew Thompson • Lina Varon • Ruth Webster • Ruth Wexler • Ami Witorz • David Worth • Graham Young • Ally Zoland • Bella Zozula • Bobbi Zylberman

## NOVEMBER – JANUARY B'NEI MITZVAH

*Mazal tov to our B'nei Mitzvah and their families.*

Joshua Brand, Joel Brand, Hugo Sasse, Amy Benjamin, Jarryd Karsz, Andrew Rudski, Chloe Dean, Oliver Maher

## SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

*(18 November – 6 January) Mazal tov on their wedding anniversaries to:*

- David & Lara Silkoff (5th) • Roger & Nicolette Schueler (5th) • Daniel & Caroline Gurvich (5th) • Alex & Tammy Musman (5th) • Charles & Kirsten Shaw (5th) • Phil Splitter & Susie Davies-Splitter (10th) • David & Nicole Brown (15th) • Tom & Helen Spencer

- (20th) • David & Sharon Hamilton (20th) • Norman & Vicki Black (25th) • Keith & Leah Maine (25th) • Peter & Judi Cohen (25th) • Jeffrey & Ann Brown (30th) • Max & Vivian Brenner (30th) • Tom & Judy Firestone (30th) • Larry & Helen Light (35th) • Norman & Sue Sonenberg (35th) • Ron & Lee Felder (40th) • Rodney & Aviva Taft (40th) • Sheldon & Sally Cohen (45th) • Len & Deanna Levin (45th) • Leslie & Elstynne Sive (50th) • Hymi & Judi Kolt (50th) • Henry & Edith Wagman (60th)

## RECENT BA'ALEI KRIYAT TORAH

*(30 September – 17 November)*

- Sam Cohen • Tammy Cohen • Miriam Feldheim • Edward Goldsmith • Rhondda Hall • Tim Hall • Ian Heyman • Michael Kiffer • Tara Kornhauser • Gabi Lewis • Ramelle Lewis • Ben Morawetz • Evi Morawetz • Simon Morawetz • Rabbi Fred Morgan • Amy Rockman • Mia Schaumann • Jamie Wajnberg

# Bereavements

## DEATHS

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

- **Kay Bancroft** (mother of Roger Bancroft) • **Charles Davidovits** (father of Les Davidovits) • **Selina Franks** (mother of Ruth Wengier) • **Irmgard Goldstein** (mother of Heidi Goldstein) • **Traude Hurwitz** (mother of Ronald Hurwitz) • **Elfriede (Fritzi) Kaufmann** (mother of David Kaufman) • **Herta Koretz** (mother of Dianna Chapman) • **Lucia Lipton** (aunt of Bob Freidin) • **Janice Mansfield** (wife of John Mansfield, mother of Ian & Ross Mansfield) • **Jenny Mandeltort** (mother of Debbie Sojka & Hugh Lowy) • **Susie Rockman** (mother of Irvin Rockman) • **Mitta Simons** (mother of Martin Simons) • **Leon Henry Splitter** (husband of Jean Splitter, father of Martin, Laurance, Phillip and Andrew) • **Minnie Wolman** (aunt of Caroline Berkowitz)

## YAHARZEITS

*Zecher Tzadik Livracha*

Observed 24 November

- **Herbert Almus** (friend of Eva Weisl) • **Jennifer Ann Spencer** (daughter of Edith Spencer) • **Jennifer Ann Spencer** (sister of Tom Spencer) • **Lotti Arndt** (aunt of Lolo Jackson) • **Mendel Balberyszski** (grandfather of Bernard Zimmermann) • **Marie Bresner** (mother of Irene Popper) • **Esther Burns** (mother of Barbara Fredman) • **Alexander Cummings** (brother of Sylvia Radolnik) • **Henry Cymbalist** (husband of Susie Cymbalist) • **Edgar Dubiner** (father of Judi Dubiner, grandfather of David Freedman) • **Francis Edward Levy** (father of Hal Levy) • **Graeme Emanuel** (1st husband of Sandra Masel, father of Joanne Gubieski) • **Leopold Fisher** (father-in-law of Erika Fisher) • **Wolfe**

- Flack** (father of Andrea Bliss) • **Esther Goldie Vanpraag** (mother of Margaret Poll) • **Bernhard Gries** (brother of Heinz Gries) • **Henry Krindler** (uncle of Anna Paul) • **Leon Leperere** (husband of Helen Leperere) • **Julian Lewit** (husband of Maria Lewit, father of Joe Lewit, grandfather of Michelle Lewit, Natalie Lewit) • **Rae Liebmann** (mother of Ross Liebmann) • **Gabriel Mandelbaum** (father of Richard Manders) • **Lillian Morgan** (mother of Fred Morgan) • **Shlomo Moshinsky** (grandfather of Sam Moshinsky) • **Sarah Paykel** (mother of Lou Paykel) • **Leo Phillips** (father of Nicole Phillips) • **Rose Pogorelske** (mother of Pam Fradkin) • **Leo Poll** (husband of Margaret Poll, father of Daniel Poll & Simon Poll) • **Aimee Selby** (mother of Benn Selby) • **Helen Shaw** (grandmother of Lionel Katz) • **Otto Sherwin** (brother of Martha Sanders) • **Ester Shmukler** (mother of Efim Shmukler) • **Louis Swart** (father of Ian Swart) • **Martha Yates** (aunt of Eva Marks) • **Aaron Zemach Hoffman** (brother of Basja Levy)

Observed 1 December

- **Kate (Kotilan) Gelbman** (grandmother of Sarah Gelbman) • **Johnny Abush** (brother of Nancy Wicks) • **Jacob Appel** (father of Morris Appel & Saul Appel) • **Maurice Bium-Goldstein** (father of Jack Gould) • **Michel Brous** (husband of Hilda Brous, father of David Brous & Pia Brous) • **Beverly Brown** (mother of Joseph Brown) • **Beryl Burley** (mother of Alwynne Jona) • **Paul Burman** (father of Frankie Blei) • **Lionel Carrick** (husband of Naomi Carrick) • **Dora Cohen** (grandmother of Mervyn Cohen) • **Margit Deutsch** (mother of Marta Mote) • **Theodor Falkenstein** (father of Anneliese Gries) • **Ralph Feldman** (husband of Beryl Feldman, father of Shirley Prager) • **Hermine Fleischmann** (mother of Carl Muller) • **Sol Freeman** (father of Howard Freeman) • **Evelyn Gluck** (mother of Rosalind Teleki) • **Melvyn Goldstein** (father of Frank Goldstein) • **Bela Jakobovits** (father of Andrew Jakobovits) • **Clara King** (mother-in-law of Emily King) • **Zigmund Lowe** (father of Ron Lowe) • **Joan Natalie Liebmann** (wife of Ross Liebmann) • **Julius Penner** (uncle of Ula Curry) • **Esther Raynor** (mother of Robert Raynor) • **Emma Rogers** (daughter of John Rogers) • **Rosa Rosta** (grandmother of Andrew Jakobovits) • **Kurt Saalfeld** (father of Dorothea Heymann) • **Winifred Sanger** (mother of Peter Nathan) • **Millie Segaloff** (mother of Benjamin Segaloff) • **Percy Silverstein** (brother of Harry Silver) • **Claude Solomon** (father in law of John Mansfield) • **Mayer Sterling** (husband of Jutta Sterling) • **David Weiner** (father of James Weiner)

Observed 8 December

- **Joseph Alfred Bancroft** (father of Roger Bancroft) • **Julian Basser** (husband of Adrienne Basser, father of Russell Basser) • **Victor**

**Beck** (father of Janet Beck) • **Kurt Beildeck** (1st husband of Marion Segal, father of Judy Langfelder) • **Louis Berkowitz** (father of Rhona Herz) • **Irene Edgar** (mother of Graham Edgar) • **Ernest Fooks** (husband of Naomi Fooks) • **Asher Fox** (father of Malcolm Fox) • **Rose Goldman** (mother of Bernard Goldman) • **Adolf Hermann** (father of Marco Hermann) • **Frank Joseph Upton** (father of Eric Upton) • **Pearl Kahan** (mother of Josh Kahan) • **Leopoldine Kish** (grandmother of Andrew Ermer) • **Osias Lutwak** (father of Hans Lutwak) • **Bertha Melwit** (grandmother of Anna Cowen) • **Sydney Morgan** (father of Janice Epstein) • **Frieda Motulski** (mother-in-law of Marta Mote) • **Ignacy Rozental** (husband of Irene Rozental, father of Dr Paul Rozental) • **Jeanne Schmelzer** (mother of Liselotte Graetzer) • **Saul Shafer** (father of Harold Shafer) • **Malcolm Sharman** (husband of Sam Sharman) • **Joseph Silver** (father of Leon Silver) • **Helen Upton** (mother of Eric Upton) • **Paul Weisl** (husband of Eva Weisl) • **Heinz Ziffer** (husband of Ilse Ziffer, father of Kath Kolb & Robert Ziffer)

Observed 15 December

• **Marge (Margery) Greenberg** (wife of Harry Greenberg) • **Evan Albert Beildeck** (son of Marion Segal) • **Nathan Baytch** (father of Rita Hyams) • **Maurice Berah** (grandfather of Jacob Berah) • **Thomas Bram** (son of Arnold & Mary Bram) • **Ben Bridgeman** (father of Paul Bridgeman) • **Gertrude Dodge** (mother of Ron Dodge & Sandy Benjamin, grandmother of Joel Dodge) • **Alen Eilenberg** (father of Ian Eilenberg) • **Rosa Falkenstein** (mother of Anneliese Gries) • **Miriam Gluck** (aunt of Rhonda Nirens) • **Rebecca Goodvach** (mother of Greg Goodvach) • **Gunter Hauck** (father of Gaby Cohen) • **Shaul Itzhak Rybajzen** (father of Adam Ryan) • **Edna Jacobi** (grandmother of Ric Benjamin) • **Hans John Buckland** (grandfather of Andrew Ermer) • **Bernard Joseph Peck** (father of Caroline Heard) • **Ida Kaminsky** (mother of Zeleck Kaminsky) • **Roy Krantz** (father of Sandra Willis) • **Berta Kunstler** (mother of Jean Berah, grandmother of Ellen Berah, great grandmother of Jacob Berah) • **Marion Levi** (mother of Peter Levi) • **Abraham Levy** (father of Philip Levy) • **Shirley Margis** (mother-in-law of Judy Margis) • **Henry Marlow** (father of David Marlow) • **Poppy Rogers** (mother of Howard Rogers & Sally Barnes) • **David Safdaye** (friend of Alan Samuel) • **Vera Silberberg** (mother of John Silberberg) • **Aaron Vanderhoek** (grandfather of Karin Weller & Richard Leder) • **Regina Wajcman** (mother of Frances Stiglec)

Observed 22 December

• **Lawrence Adolphus Pratt** (father of Joyce Watson) • **Maya Barger** (mother of Gregori Barger) • **Israel Boon** (husband of Helene Boon, father of Jacob Boon) • **Barnett Brandon** (father of Jean Splitter, grandfather

of Martin, Laurance, Philip & Andrew Splitter) • **Francis Breth** (husband of Ilse Breth) • **Robert Dickins** (father of Eve Mahlab) • **Violet Farago** (aunt of Peter Kolliner) • **Yetta Frankel** (mother of Denis Frankel) • **George Graetzer** (husband of Liselotte Graetzer, father of Norbert Graetzer) • **Oskar Gries** (father of Heinz Gries) • **Lida Gringlas** (wife of Mietek Gringlas, mother of Ada Moshinsky, & Jack Gringlas) • **John Harris Marks** (father of Eva Nathan) • **Golda Hyman** (wife of Symon Hyman) • **Robert Jacob Gild** (husband of Ann Gild) • **Harry Kenner** (father of Edna May) • **Madeleine Kosky** (mother of Tony Kosky) • **Gerta Kroto** (mother of Marion Lippmann) • **Bernard Lustig** (brother of Lewis Lustig) • **Josefine Lutwak** (2nd wife of Hans Lutwak) • **Yetta Miriam Collinson** (mother of Stella Harris) • **Zac Newton** (grandson of Vera & Bob Freidin, nephew of Kathy Kaplan) • **Rosalie Oppenheim** (friend of Eva Skrabal) • **Albert Precel** (father of David Precel) • **Edward Robins** (cousin of Roma Frey) • **Ralph Samuel** (father of Brian Samuel, Graeme Samuel, Ian Samuel, Neil Samuel) • **Cilly Seligman** (aunt of Anne Felder) • **Zelda Silver** (mother of Leon Silver) • **Paul Sinclair** (father of Sue Morgan) • **Gerda Sternberg** (wife of Alfred Sternberg) • **Louis Tobias** (father of Sandra Farber) • **Ida Troy (nee Beresniakoff)** (mother of Chester Alan Troy) • **Elias Vos** (father of Eva Neeter) • **Carl Wilson Snr** (father of Tina Fox)

Observed 29 December

• **Mae Ann Alexander** (mother of Eva Nathan) • **Emery Balint** (father of Michael Balint) • **Boris Borovik** (father-in-law of Raissa Borovik) • **Lola Bresner** (mother of Dorothy Bresner & Evelyn Bresner) • **Mary Carp** (mother of Esther Michael) • **Erwin Eisfelder** (uncle of Kevin Eisfelder) • **Eric Eisinger** (husband of Lotti Eisinger-Philipp, father of Denise Same & Karen Wayne, grandfather of Daniel Same, Fairlie Wayne, Stephanie Wayne & Romy Same) • **Edna Jacobs** (mother of Sam Sharman) • **Lilian James** (mother of Felicity Guthrie) • **Steven John Marks** (son of Betty Marks) • **Yakov Light** (father in law of Helen Light) • **Bernard Magnus** (father of Sharon Mason) • **Emanuel Mandie** (father of Brian Mandie) • **Dr Martin Samuel** (father of Roger Samuel) • **Rabbi Michael Elton** (father of Howard Elton) • **Ann Newson** (mother of Felicity Guthrie) • **Karen Rochelle Freeman** (daughter of Howard & Lorraine Freeman) • **Peter Schwarcz** (husband of Gusta Schwarcz) • **Harry Segal** (husband of Sara Segal, father of Carmella Prideaux) • **Isaac Sher** (father of Morris Sher) • **Eva Simon** (mother of Jeanette Goldman) • **Clare Solomon** (mother of Robert Solomon)

Observed 5 January

**Frances (Frieda) Precel** (mother of David Precel) • **Albert Bidjarano** (father of Robert Raynor) • **Janet Brundle** (grandmother of

Lorraine Dvash) • **Jacob Cohen** (father of Miriam Morris) • **Erna Glogau-Schiff** (step-mother of Peter Schiff) • **Adi Gold** (husband of Sadie Yaffe, father of Sheryl Karsz) • **Philip Kamler** (father of Barbara Kamler) • **Alex Kolb** (father of Andrew Kolb) • **Sadie Lipin** (mother of Shirley Nathan) • **Ethel Lipman** (mother of Minnie Kahan) • **Edith Marie Wicks** (mother of Barry Wicks) • **Alec Masel** (father of Leigh Masel) • **Susan Raymond (nee Fellner)** (daughter of Katy Fellner) • **Rudolf Ruben** (husband of Inge Ruben) • **Erich Schiftan** (father of Peter Schiftan) • **Sol Segal** (husband of Mim Segal, father of Ann Brown) • **Becky Sharpe** (mother of Laurence Sharpe & Roslyn Levy) • **Jacob Shaw** (father of George Shaw) • **Henry Sinclair** (father of Mark Sinclair) • **Runia Steinkoler** (mother of Leon Steinkoler) • **Ferdy Steinmetz** (father of Else Frohlich) • **Rubin Wassertheil** (uncle of Jeff Wassertheil)

Observed 12 January

• **Lewis (Lew) May** (husband of Edna May) • **Sarine Bayer** (mother of Rosy Matthews) • **Sara Bium-Goldstein** (mother of Jack Gould) • **Alan Charles Rose** (husband of Esta Rose) • **Anna Elizabeth Shafer (Boeske) & Sam Joseph Shafer** (partner and son of Bernard Shafer, daughter-in-law and grandson of Simon & Ellen Shafer) • **Dusi Fabian** (mother of Eva Balogh) • **Kenneth Forshaw** (husband of Hannah Forshaw) • **Bert Greenberg** (father of Harry Greenberg) • **Cecilia Greenfield** (mother of Fran Van Hoof) • **Elsa Hallenstein** (mother of Ann Jacobs) • **Zoe Irene Joseph** (mother of Mim Segal) • **Israel Jacobson** (father of Nathan Jacobson) • **Martha Jacobson** (wife of Nathan Jacobson) • **Annie Katz** (mother of Maurice Katz) • **Sam Klein** (father of Margot Freedman) • **Joseph Morris Richard** (father of Ann Seligmann) • **Wolf Pahoff** (father of Les Pahoff) • **Frances Rieser** (sister of Max Drajer) • **Meyer Sakinofsky** (father of Colin Sakinofsky) • **Ichil Schwartz** (father of Malvina Malinek) • **Harry Sher** (brother of Morris Sher) • **Louis Tobias** (father of Bette Pulver & Sandra Farber)

Observed 19 January

• **Rebecca Abrahams** (mother of Louis Abrahams) • **Julie Adele Rosenberg** (sister of Miri Sward, aunt of Robert Sward) • **Gersh Chapkes** (father of Aleksandra Boubnovskaia) • **Warren Dabscheck** (brother of Deanna Levin & Marlene Dryen) • **Paula Dukes-Deutsch** (grandmother of Susan Vati) • **Lucie Emily Stupel** (mother of Joe Stupel) • **Sarah Goodenday** (mother of Etta Maver) • **Joan & Tom Griffiths** (parents of Penny Jakobovits) • **Hanelore Guest** (mother of Judy Bennett) • **Abraham Harry Lipman** (father of Minnie Kahan) • **Arnold & Caroline Isaacson** (parents of Peter Isaacson) • **Zina Juno** (mother of Ruth Siegel) • **Paul Kalnoky** (brother of Susie Cymbalist) • **Elizabeth Kolliner** (mother of Peter Kolliner) • **Hans Levy** (husband of Basja Levy)

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 tner** (mother of Anna Cowen, Arnold Wittner  
 & David Wittner)

Observed 26 January

• **Marysia Alexander** (mother of Lynn Al-  
 exander) • **Emilie Alkalai** (mother of Henri  
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