

ROSH HASHANAH

5785 | 2024

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שנה טובה



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“A TIME TO WEEP AND A TIME TO LAUGH; A TIME FOR LAMENTING AND A TIME FOR DANCING; A TIME TO LOVE AND A TIME TO HATE; A TIME OF WAR AND A TIME OF PEACE.”

KOHELET, CHAPTER 3

AM YISRAEL CHAI

RABBI MATTHEW LIEBENBERG

The year 5784 was without doubt the most harrowing and difficult 13 months (it was a Jewish leap year) since the Holocaust.

The prophet Jeremiah said (Lamentations 5:15), *"Gone is the joy of our hearts, our dancing has turned into mourning."* He could have been referring to Shabbat 22 Tishrei 5784, corresponding to the seventh of October 2023. That was the day on which Israeli Jewry celebrated Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah. A day of immense joy, celebration, dancing and festivity. A day on which they completed the annual cycle of the Torah reading and began it anew. A day on which they thanked God for the *"Lord's precepts which are just and gladden the heart"* (Tehillim 19:9).

Alas! The joy was transformed to sorrow; the dancing to mourning; the light to darkness; the laughter to tears. In a carefully planned and meticulously executed operation, thousands of Hamas terrorists infiltrated the South of Israel, killing indiscriminately and taking hostages of all ages. They shot, burned, stabbed and tortured their victims, in some instances slaughtering entire families in cold blood. And while the infiltrators went on their rampage, thousands of rockets rained down from Gaza bringing death and destruction in their wake. Israel was caught unaware. First responders who bravely raced to assist the victims were gunned down. The soldiers of the IDF were instructed to report for duty immediately,

"AT CWHC WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF OUR 18/120 CELEBRATIONS. IT HAS BEEN 18 YEARS SINCE THE CLAREMONT AND WYNBERG SHULS JOINED FORCES AND 120 YEARS SINCE THE FOUNDING OF THE CLAREMONT SHUL."

notwithstanding the fact that it was Shabbat and Chag. Reservists left their families and headed for the south and the north. Some soldiers were killed in the early clashes, still others went missing. The number of casualties was staggering as was the number of hostages taken, many of whom (at the time of writing), are still in Gaza.

But it was not just a year of doom and gloom. During 5784 we witnessed unprecedented levels of Jewish unity as we faced an onslaught of anti-Semitism in the media; the International Court of Justice; the United Nations and demonstrations on the streets of major cities and at University Campuses across the globe. We took heart when we heard stories of bravery and heroism involving members of the IDF and regular Israeli citizens. And we took comfort in the fact that the State of Israel has a strong army and an even stronger spirit.

"The Guardian of Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps" (Tehillim 121:4). The Jewish people become fortified through adversity. We

redouble our efforts. We commit even more intensely to studying Torah and fulfilling mitzvot. We fight the forces of death and evil with the forces of light and goodness.

At CWHC we are in the midst of our 18/120 celebrations. It has been 18 years since the Claremont and Wynberg shuls joined forces and 120 years since the founding of the Claremont Shul. We will be commemorating these milestones with an international fundraising event; a video presentation; a celebratory Shabbat and a gala dinner in the next few months. Please watch your emails for further details.

Lee, Chani Merryl and Naomi join me in wishing you all a *Ketiva v'Chatima Tova*, may we all be blessed with a good, healthy and peaceful year!



A PERSONAL TRIBUTE TO OUR SHULS

CHIEF RABBI WARREN GOLDSTEIN

As you look through this magazine, you'll be struck, as I am every year, by how its pages reflect the hard work and dedication of the rabbi and rebbetzin, shul committee, volunteers and administrators of the Claremont Wynberg Hebrew Congregation; how, together, through numerous initiatives, the leaders and volunteers of your shul are creating a vibrant community for everyone to enjoy.

When you think of the time and effort and talent that goes into creating your shul experience - it's breathtaking. And it's a great time to express our gratitude for the incredible blessing of being part of a community. Our shuls, I believe, are what makes our South African Jewish community so special. In our generation, a time of great social fractures and isolation, this is what people are craving more than anything - a sense of community. And we have it, right here, in our shuls.

Our shuls are where community happens, more than anywhere else. I'll go further - our shuls are, in the most real, tangible way, what makes us a community, every week. It's the place we gather for daily minyanim, Shabbat services and every Yom Tov. We gather to connect with Hashem. We gather to connect with each other. We gather with our rabbis and with each other to find faith and strength, love and friendship, vision and inspiration; to celebrate with in times of happiness, and comfort each other in times of difficulty and loss.

Our shuls enrich us spiritually, emotionally and socially - a hub of meaning and inspiration, a source of comfort and support, a warm, inviting place that makes us feel at home.

Crucially, our shuls are not just community centres; they embody and nurture within us the values that make a community, a Jewish community. The Mishna in Pirkei Avot tells us the world stands on three things: Torah wisdom, prayer and acts of kindness. Our shuls give us all three.

Firstly, they are our contact point with Hashem's guidance and perspective through learning Torah. With all the inspiring sermons, incredible shiurim and learning groups on offer, we immerse ourselves in Divine wisdom, grasping from it the purpose and meaning of life, who we are and where we come from - what it means to be a Jew.

Secondly, our shuls give us the great spiritual merit of davening in a minyan, of connecting to our Creator. Our sages explain that when we pray together, we come before Hashem not just on our own merit, but with the collective merit of the community - and in fact, all of Klal Yisrael. Our prayers are therefore exponentially more powerful. This is particularly important on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, when we come before our Creator in judgement and need every merit we can get.

Thirdly, our shuls offer amazing opportunities for giving. Through the many shul chesed projects, people are looked after, cared for, provided with what they need. These acts of kindness nurture the love and the bonds that hold us all together.

These are the three pillars of the world, and of a Jewish community. And, more than that, whenever we step into our shuls, we also spiritually and emotionally connect with the broader South African Jewish community, and world Jewry.

We have felt this particularly intensely since October 7. As Jews, we've needed consolation, comfort and solidarity during this painful time - and we've found it in our shuls. Baruch Hashem. What a blessing. What a gift.

May Hashem bless all the wonderful people of CWHC, and all of us, and, of course, our brothers and sisters in Israel with a good and sweet year filled with peace, safety and abundance.



“OUR SHULS, I BELIEVE, ARE WHAT MAKES OUR SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY SO SPECIAL.”

Introspection & Reflection

MELANIE HARMAN

We shared many simchas at CWHC this year, from breakfasts to brochas, britot to bar mitzvahs, braais and dinners, Chanukah and Purim parties, a Pesach seder. We were privileged to accommodate Camp Kasher during their annual machaneh and we hosted many visitors and guest speakers including Steven Swart from the ACDP, Adam Kepkey of Bridges for Peace, Harry Amdurer, Rabbi Widmonte, Leila Bloch and John King (survivors from Kibbutz Be'eri), Dr Dave Scher, Casey Shevel and Ilana Stein.

It has to be said, however, that for me and many of you, 5784 was overshadowed by the trauma of the October 7 massacre. The exuberance of Simchat Torah was transformed into shock, disbelief and fear. Over the course of almost a year, the collective angst has been palpable. It has catapulted us back to memories of the Holocaust with global displays of anti-Semitism and acts of violence perpetrated against Jews and Jewish institutions, inclusive of pro-Palestinian protests on our own doorstep and abroad, and aside from the reprehensible stance of the ANC government which culminated in the filing of the ICJ case!

We did not forget, however, that *"Our lives are not disconnected particles. We are each a letter in God's book of life. But single letters, though they are the vehicles of meaning, have no meaning when they stand alone."* As a community, what did we do? More mitzvot. More tzedakah. More gemilut hasadim (acts of loving kindness). More partnership. CWHC united with an outpouring of tremendous generosity for the IDF soldiers who were in need of urgent supplies.

The shul office was brim-filled with toiletries, first aid kits, hand-knitted beanies, surgical knives, underwear. You name it, we had it, boxed and ready to board a plane to Israel. The chesed didn't stop there. With open hands and hearts, recognising the needs of others, the community further combined in support of a collection for the Itombo family on the birth of a son and for Tikvah, the Haven and Mandela Day. Over and above the regular catering, the kitchen has been inundated with orders for meals, savouries, baked goods and our famous kichel to be shared together, across our tables, in our homes. That's what yidden do! We will never be subdued.

After a long, rainy and COLD winter, the sun is starting to peek out as we have reached Elul, a time of introspection and reflection in preparation for Rosh Hashanah and the Days of Awe. Although this is a personal, intimate time - a one-on-one with Hashem, once again, "There is no "I" in our prayers, *"Remember US for life, Inscribe US in the book of life"* - Unity. Just as Rosh Hashanah impacts the year, how are we going to impact 5785? What will we do differently? What will we strive for? How can we be better parents, grandparents, siblings, children, friends, colleagues, members of society? Let the shofar be our wake-up call.

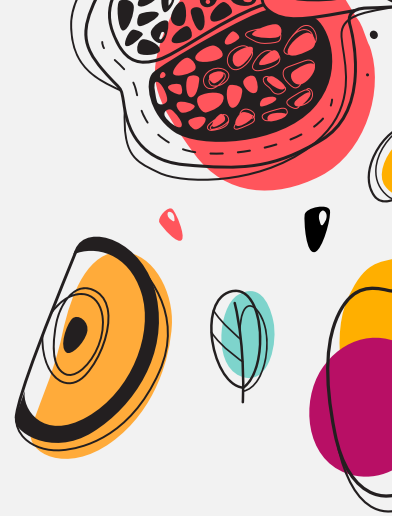
It is my privilege to work with the inspirational Rabbi and Lee, for whom I have the ultimate respect. They are a blessing to me, personally, and to the entire community and beyond. I am so fortunate to work with a most capable, loyal and dedicated team, without whom the wheels of the shul

would not turn. I appreciate you all very much. I am enriched by the CWHC community every day.

May you all be inscribed and sealed for a Shana Tova u'metukah, of good health, renewal, emunah and joy, and to continue to enhance the lives of others - *"for where we bring blessings into other lives, there God lives."* I pray for our hostages and the nation of Israel. May we see Moshiach speedily in our days. We WILL continue to dance. Am Yisrael Chai!

"Life may be hard, but it can still be sweet, the way the challah and the apple are on Rosh Hashanah when we dip them in honey. Jews have never needed wealth to be rich, or power to be strong. To be a Jew is to live for simple things - the gift of community where we help others and others help us and where we learn that joy is doubled and grief halved by being shared."

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks





שנה טובה

SHANAH TOVAH U'METUKA

BARRY & KAREN FRIEDMAN
AND FAMILY





BY DOUGLAS MURRAY

Since 7 October 2024 veteran journalist and author Douglas Murray has emerged as one of the most eloquent non-Jewish defenders of the State of Israel.

I've never seen as much of the best and the worst of humankind as I have in the past six months in Israel and Gaza. I was here in New York on the 7th of October, and on the 8th, I went down to Times Square. And there were these men and women, waving signs, celebrating the massacre. They were holding these signs in Times Square, "by any means necessary." At a time when we already knew what those means included. I thought I had to get to Israel as soon as I could, that we were going to see a kind of

Holocaust denialism in real time, and therefore I should see with my own eyes everything that had happened. In Israel, I joined the pathologists in the morgues of Tel Aviv as they were trying to identify the dead. An unbelievable task, which they do with extraordinary delicacy and religiosity. I had the great opportunity to witness firsthand Israel's response, because unlike some countries today, Israel doesn't just sit back with equanimity when it's attacked. Some of the world would like it to do so. Seeing one of the fences that the terrorists broke into, I thought people aren't going to realize the scale of this: This was a 4,000-person, battalion-sized terrorist attack that aimed to go all the way up the center of the country.

What do I make of all this? I think often of the line from Deuteronomy,

when God says, "*I've set before you life and death, blessing and cursing, therefore choose life that you and your descendants might live.*"

Because when I think of the seventh now, I don't only think of the victims. I think of the extraordinary heroes. There's a young man who's a friend in his 30s, who woke up in Jerusalem, realized the seriousness of what was going on, got into his car, drove south, collected some guns, left a farewell message to his children and his wife on his phone, got a call from his company commander on the road saying, you have to come back to base in Jerusalem. And he said, no, we're needed south now. And his battalion commander said, are you defying an order? He said, yes. We're needed in the South. And he fought for the next 48 hours, and he survived.



I WITNESSED ISRAEL CHOOSING LIFE AS IT FIGHTS AGAINST A 'DEATH CULT'

day by a rocket that landed on her in Sderot. In a letter she left for her parents she said how sorry she was. But she said, I wanted to live life, and now I want you to live it for me.

I think, finally, of the extraordinary evening in November last year. I was at the Schneider Children's Hospital when the helicopters came returning the first hostages, the first children who Hamas had stolen from their homes in the south. But when the helicopters emerged in the night sky, the people of Tel Aviv realized what was happening, and every car stopped. And I noticed there was applause from the citizens, the Tel Avivians, and then there was singing, all the way through the streets of Tel Aviv. They were singing "Haveynu shalom aleichem" - We brought you peace.

I think of my friend Moshe. I noted he had a bullet mark down the top of his helmet. He explained that it was from the 7th. He drove right into the middle of the firefight on the highway. He got out and he fought and he killed three terrorists with his gun that he carries with him, thank goodness. And he fought for the next two days. I think of the extraordinary people of the Hatzalah, first-responders unit. The head of that organization said in 30 years of doing this job, the whole 30 years altogether wasn't like one minute that morning. The lights just went off everywhere.

And I think of a young woman who was 23. She was a beautiful girl, a photographer. And she decided she had to go and reenlist. Her parents begged her not to, but she said she had to. And she was killed on her first

Now there's millions of stories like this across Israel. The country rings with them, it resounds with them. The thing is, perhaps it does require life to become serious again. Perhaps the students that we see at these destroyed universities, perhaps they just need a dose of reality someday. I always pray that that day never comes to them because it'll be the biggest wake-up call anyone has ever had. But all I would say is that any country should be so lucky as to have a young generation like that in Israel.

What Israel has been up against is not just a people of death, but a cult of death, a cult, which wishes to annihilate an entire race, and which after dealing with that race has made very clear what it wants to do with Christians, everyone in Britain,

everyone in America. I want to dedicate my acceptance of this award to the people of Israel who in the face of death, choose life.

Published May 8, 2024. Adapted from Douglas Murray's speech when he accepted the Manhattan Institute's Alexander Hamilton Award.

*Murray is an author and journalist based in Britain. His latest publication is the international bestseller, *The War On The West*. His previous book, *The Madness of Crowds* was a bestseller and "book of the year" for *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. *The Strange Death of Europe: Immigration, Identity, Islam*, was published by Bloomsbury in May 2017. It spent almost 20 weeks on *The Sunday Times* bestseller list and was a Number 1 bestseller in non-fiction. It has subsequently been published in more than 20 languages worldwide and has been read and cited by politicians around the world. *The Evening Standard* described it as "By far the most compelling political book of the year." It was praised by, among others, Nick Cohen, Sir Roger Scruton, Clive James, Morrissey and Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, who described it as "The most disturbing political book I've read this year. Based on travels through key European centres, Murray weaves a tale of uncontrolled immigration, failed multiculturalism, systemic self-doubt, cultural suicide and disingenuous political leadership. Accurate, insightful and devastating." Murray has been a contributor to *The Spectator* since 2000 and has been Associate Editor at the magazine since 2012. He has also written regularly for numerous other outlets including *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Sun*, *The Evening Standard*, *The New York Post*, and *The New Criterion*. He is a regular contributor to *National Review*, *UnHerd*, and *The Free Press*. His website is <https://douglasmurray.net/>*



IN MEMORY OF DANIEL PEREZ

YAD BINYAMIN'S FAVOURITE SON,
KILLED ON OCT. 7

From The Jerusalem Post 19 April 2024 by ALAN ROSENBAUM



For 163 days, I've been worried sick about my son - if he's being tortured, what they're doing to him, if he's alive, and if I'm ever going to see him again. **Now that I know he's passed on, as painful as that is, I never have to worry about him, and I didn't have to worry about him because he never suffered. He's not suffering, and he won't suffer in the future...**

Driving into Yad Binyamin, a small town in central Israel, on a sunny Thursday afternoon, one could almost forget that we are in the middle of a war. The streets are calm, quiet, and peaceful, the flowers are in bloom, and the setting is idyllic. However, the illusion is broken as I see an IAF jet approaching the nearby Tel Nof Airbase for landing.

I have come to Yad Binyamin to speak with Executive Chairman of World Mizrahi Rabbi Doron Perez, whose 22-year-old son, Daniel, a platoon commander in the 7th Armoured Brigade's 77th Battalion, died on Oct. 7, defending Kibbutz Nahal Oz. For 163 days, Daniel Perez, missing since the beginning of the war, was thought to be alive, and his name was listed among those kidnapped into Gaza. Then, on Sunday, March 17, the IDF officially notified his family that, based on video Daniel was dead, his body being held by Hamas.

The following afternoon, in the midst of a driving rain, Daniel's bloodstained shirt was laid to rest, in a funeral at Mount Herzl. Thousands of visitors paid their respects in Yad Binyamin but the Perez home is quiet on the day I visit, several days before the shloshim, the 30-day mourning observance. "What we're going through now is very different from the first 163 days," Rabbi Perez explains. Despite the stress of not knowing his son's fate for months, and then learning that he had died on the first day of the war, Perez remains remarkably composed, at least outwardly.

He recalls a conversation he had with his wife during the shiva. "My wife said to me, For 163 days, I've been worried sick about my son - if he's being tortured, what they're doing to him, if he's alive, and if I'm ever going to see him again. Now that I know he's passed on, as painful as that is, I never have to worry about him, and I didn't have to worry about him because he never suffered. He's not suffering, and he won't suffer in the future. The mourning now is incredibly painful, but it's our pain. It's our individual pain of coming to terms with the loss, but there's no worry and angst about our son."

To understand the life of Daniel Perez, one needs to understand his family background - and how they all ended up in Israel. Daniel's father, Doron, was born in Johannesburg in 1970. Doron's Moroccan-born father had made aliyah as a teen in the 1950s and served in the IDF. While on a visit to South Africa in the 1960s, he met and married a girl whose parents were originally from Kovno, Lithuania. Doron was therefore born to an Ashkenazi Lithuanian mother and a Sephardi father, unusual in South Africa, where most Jews had exclusively Lithuanian roots. Doron's family attended synagogue on Shabbat and holidays and kept kosher at home but did not observe the dietary laws outside. "I grew up in a family where there was a strong natural connection to Judaism, but we weren't religious, per se," he explains. "That's how most South African Jews - certainly then - were."

Nevertheless, the Perez family maintained a strong Zionist connection because Doron's paternal grandparents lived in Israel, and his maternal grandfather was the head of the Maccabi South African sports organization. "The whole weltanschauung (worldview) and feeling of our home was a natural connection to Judaism as South African Jews and a very strong Zionist connection because my (maternal) grandfather ran Jewish sport" says Doron. "He was called 'Mr. Maccabi' because he built South African Jewish sport." Doron's grandfather built the first Jewish country club in South Africa in 1957 and attended numerous Maccabiah games and three Olympic Games as the representative of Jewish sports in South Africa. In 1979, Doron's grandparents made aliyah, which had a significant impression on the nine-year-old. "The year before they made aliyah, they gathered the family, and (my grandfather) said, "We know it's unusual for grandparents to leave all their children and grandchildren in the Diaspora. I've been the leader of the Jewish community in the Zionist world. How can I not move to Israel? This is what I believe in. My hope and prayer is that all of you will eventually follow suit." By 1991, all of their children and grandchildren had moved to Israel.

Doron's parents began to become more observant, which impacted his own religious conduct. He attended Yeshiva College, the largest religious day school in South Africa. Although he was a schoolboy star in soccer, cricket, and tennis, he gave up competitive events that were held on Shabbat. After high school, Doron came to Israel with the intention of studying for a year or two, then returning to South Africa to begin his medical

studies. However, his interest in Torah study grew. "Once I started studying, I realized I knew nothing. And the more you study, the less you know," he explains. He continued his studies for a second and third year at the yeshiva in Beit El, and in 1991 his parents and three siblings made aliyah. In January 1998, Doron married his wife, Shelley, also a native of South Africa, and in 1999 their first son, Yonatan, was born. At that point, Doron was finishing his rabbinic studies as part of the Hesder Programme and had completed an education degree from Herzog College. He was beginning to teach in gap year programs and felt settled in Jerusalem.

Life took an unexpected turn when members of the Mizrahi South African Jewish community asked him to return to South Africa as a *shaliach* (emissary) and educator. Though he initially demurred, he finally accepted and planned to remain for two or three years. Instead, his stay in South Africa stretched into 15 years. "When I returned to South Africa, I felt an incredible sense of *shlichut* (of mission)," Doron says. "My core values are a deep love of the Jewish people, a deep connection to the land and State of Israel, and the love of Torah. When I came there (to South Africa), I saw the connection to the State of Israel and the centrality of Israel and Zionism to Jewish identity - and (that) our Jewish religious identity was not necessarily everyone's sort of natural understanding. I felt it was a real place to have a strong religious Zionist community."

Doron, who initially served as Executive Director of Mizrahi South Africa, eventually became the senior rabbi of one of the major synagogues there, and the head of Yeshiva College, his alma mater. During the family's stay in South

Africa, the remaining three children were born: son Daniel in 2001, and his sisters Adina in 2004 and Shira in 2008. In 2014, Doron and his family returned to Israel, where he assumed the position of Executive Chairman of the Mizrahi World Movement. Despite the fact that the family had frequently visited during the summers, Perez says that when they returned, they were essentially "South African kids." The Perez family moved to Yad Binyamin, arriving on July 14, 2014, in the middle of Operation Protective Edge. "We arrived here late at night," he recalls. "The next night, we were in an air raid shelter. I remember my then 10-year-old daughter, Adina, asking me, "Wasn't South Africa supposed to be the dangerous country? And secondly, why are people trying to kill a 10-year-old in her bedroom?" "I had a good answer to the first question," he recalls. "I said, "We didn't leave South Africa because it's dangerous, and we didn't come to Israel because it's safe, though I do think that it's a safe place to be. We came here because we believe it is the place ultimately where the Jews need to be." I didn't have as good an answer to her second question," he admits. The family adapted quickly to life in Israel. Doron's wife, Shelley, worked as a physical therapist, and the children attended school. Yonatan studied in a Hesder yeshiva before joining the paratroopers, and Daniel joined a *mechina* (pre-army preparatory program). Yonatan excelled in the army and today is a company commander. After reviewing the events of the past seven or eight years, the conversation returns to Daniel.

Speaking of him in the present tense, Doron says, "Daniel is an extreme sport type of guy, an

ADHD type of kid, not easy to sit still, loves extreme sports, loves adrenaline rushes. The biggest 'hevreman' (people person) you ever met. He came to Israel at the age of 13 and was very upset to leave South Africa because of his huge array of friends. If I had to think which of our sons would have the hardest aliyah, I would have thought it would be Daniel because he was so upset to leave South Africa." Within a day of their arrival in Israel, Doron says, Daniel, with his endearing personality, began to amass a variety of friends from his hometown of Yad Binyamin, as well as former South Africans and everyone in between.

If he did not want to do something, nothing in the world could make him do it. If he wanted to do it, nothing could stop him." At the eulogy that Doron delivered at the funeral, he recounted how, when he was head of school in South Africa, he spent several weeks helping to prepare his son for the school's annual Bible vocabulary test competition.

"I took it very seriously," Doron recalls, with the hint of a smile playing on his face. "I'm the head of school, and I had to show that we believed in the curriculum." Daniel did well and finished in second place. The following year,

Doron continues, four or five days before the quiz, Daniel approached him just as he was about to leave on a wedding anniversary vacation with Shelley - and asked what his father would give him if he finished in first place. Doron remembers: "I asked him if he had started preparing for the quiz, and he said, "No." I said to him, "When I learned everything with you last year, you finished in second place, and now you are going to do it on your own in five days?" Despite Daniel's minimal chances, father and son agreed on a reward he would receive should he win. Several days later, while on vacation, Doron received a call

Doron chuckles, recalling his youngest son's work for the Health Ministry during the COVID-19 crisis, when his job was taking people out of isolation in Yad Binyamin. "He became the most popular person in Yad Binyamin. People were calling me to talk to Daniel Perez because he was running the show." Daniel became an outstanding wakeboarder. Doron shows me a video on his phone of Daniel skimming through the water, and gracefully performing a mid-air pirouette. Daniel wanted to join the elite Sayeret Golani unit but tore his anterior cruciate ligaments and his meniscus in a wakeboarding accident in the summer of 2019. He spent nine months in gruelling physical therapy during his mechina year, and fought with the army to raise his profile until they relented and gave him a high enough score to join the tank corps. "He absolutely loved tanks," says his father. "He liked the complexity of it, and he loved the power of it. That was his extreme sports." Doron says that Daniel was a difficult child to raise. "He was fiercely independent. You could not tell this kid what to do.

“HE ABSOLUTELY LOVED TANKS, SAYS HIS FATHER. HE LIKED THE COMPLEXITY OF IT, AND HE LOVED THE POWER OF IT.”



from the head of the school's Judaic studies department congratulating him on his son's victory. "I said to Daniel, "How did you do it?" He said, "Last year, we really did it for you. This year, I decided to do it for me."

In order to learn how to work with his son, says Perez, he had to go to therapy "to understand that I had to go with this kid's will and not fight it. Every time I took him on head-on, I lost," he acknowledges. Once Doron understood that he couldn't bend his son's will to his wishes, things became easier. Doron was curious to see how Daniel would take to the discipline and work of serving in the IDF and was thrilled to see how he thrived. "He absolutely loved it," he says. "He became disciplined because he loved it. He was disciplined about things he wanted to do." He started as a tank loader but wanted to learn every function of how the tank operated. Daniel went to a commanders' course and was named Outstanding Soldier in the group. "That was a turning point for me," says Perez. "It was only then that I realized how important the army was to him." Daniel took an officers' course and became part of the 7th Army division. "He absolutely flourished."

On October 6, having spent three years in the army, Daniel was a tank commander based in Kibbutz Nahal Oz. "Friends have told me," says Perez, "that October 6 was probably his most boring day in the army. He phoned every single one of his friends and spoke to them for 15 to 20 minutes each. Things were at the lowest possible state of alert, as it was going to be chag and Shabbat." At 06:15 on the morning of Oct. 7, when the missile barrage began, Daniel and his crew entered the air raid shelter. After Oct. 7, Daniel's IDF

bloodstained shirt was found, and the family wondered if he had time to put on his uniform before getting into the tank.

According to reports that they received from a guard at the base who attended the *shiva*, Daniel and his crew came to their tank dressed in full battle gear. "They got into their tank at 06:45 and fought for two hours and 16 minutes, gallantly and valiantly," says Perez. "They stood between Kibbutz Nahal Oz and the border, fought off many terrorists, and saved many lives." When the second wave of Hamas terrorists penetrated the kibbutz, Daniel and his tank crew saw them coming and made the difficult decision to confront the invaders - who were on motorbikes and heavily armed - with their tank, which was not intended for close-range combat. "During that final battle," says Perez, "they were fighting in close combat, and the terrorists managed to get onto the tank, and [Daniel] was shot. We don't know if he died from that or died later, but the tank was overrun just after nine o'clock on that morning after two and a quarter hours of incredible defence."

Two other members of Daniel's tank were killed, and a third is thought to be held hostage in Gaza. Later that day, Daniel's older brother Yonatan, who was in Yad Binyamin, was called in and fought in Sderot and several other areas until, at 1pm, he commanded the first group of soldiers to retake the base in Nahal Oz. At 2:45pm, he was shot in the leg, just 100 yards from where Daniel had been shot. "It's unusual," says Doron, "that you've got two sons, both officers, both fought in the same area; one unfortunately was killed and taken hostage, and the other was, by the grace of God, only lightly wounded."

Doron returns full circle to the strong South African bond that remains. He still wears a yellow bracelet on his wrist inscribed with Daniel's Hebrew name and the words "Bring them home," which was created by the South African Jewish community and worn by its members when it was thought that Daniel was still alive. "The entire South African Jewish community is in mourning because Daniel grew up in South Africa. He was [their] family. I was there for 15 years. The South African Jewish community woke up after two days of Yom Tov, on October 9, to find out that two boys they know, one was taken hostage, and the other was wounded."

For Rabbi Doron Perez and his family, the public mourning has ended, but the private mourning remains. "It's coming to terms with the pain and the grief of a son that you're never going to see again. It's painful, but it's different. It's the pain of grief. It's not the pain of angst and worry. It's now the grief of loss. We know that he's in a good place. Our sages say that the highest place in Gan Eden is for those who gave their lives defending the Jewish people, so there's nothing to worry about him. It's our loss. It's our grief."

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UOS LEGACY PROJECT

HONOURING THE MEMORY OF
Alison Berk-Katzeff zt"l



UNION OF
ORTHODOX SYNAGOGUES
OF SOUTH AFRICA
איחוד בתי הכנסת האורתודוקסים
בדרום אפריקה

The UOS Legacy Project to honour the memory of Alison Katzeff zt”l, was approved and endorsed by The Cape Town Priorities and Planning Board, Alison’s Rabbi and Dayan on the South African Beth Din, Rabbi Matthew Liebenberg and Chief Rabbi Dr Warren Goldstein. The UOS Legacy Project was also generously supported by Lance Katz (UJC Chairman), in his personal capacity, as well as a number of extremely generous donors - among them, close friends and family of Alison’s, as well as communal leaders and Jewish philanthropists from all around the world.

With 20 Affiliate member shuls and over 70 employees and volunteers working in multiple locations across the Western Cape, the UOS Cape Council plays a pivotal role in protecting Jewish continuity and Orthodoxy. From cradle to grave, this organisation promotes Torah and the Jewish way of life, taking care of all our Jewish religious needs in Cape Town, through the 12 divisions and four legal entities operating under its communal umbrella.

“We believe that The UOS Legacy Project speaks directly to Alison's commitment to building and safeguarding the sustainability of our community and the belief that quality, commitment and integrity go hand in hand. It is an investment in the growth and sustainability of the UOS and the personal enrichment of its employees. And it is an investment in the future sustainability and viability of the Cape Town Jewish Community.”

JOEL MERRIS UOS Executive Director

On Wednesday 24 July 2024, the UOS building, situated at 191 Buitenkant Street, Cape Town, was officially named the ALISON BERK KATZEFF COMMUNITY CENTRE, in memory of Alison Katzeff - of blessed memory, who contributed so much to communal Jewish life in Cape Town and was a passionate supporter of Jewish education and the promotion of Torah observance and Torah learning in Cape Town.

Everything that Alison did for our community was *l'Shem Shamayim* - for the sake of Heaven, and whilst she will be remembered for her outstanding contribution to our Cape Town community through her leadership of the UJC, it was her commitment to the WHOLE COMMUNITY that really made her such an outstanding communal leader and philanthropist. It is for this reason that we believe it appropriate to honour her in this manner - the UOS is the very heartbeat of our Cape Town Jewish community and the custodians of Torah and Jewish life in Cape Town.

Calendar

THE HIGH HOLY DAYS 5785/2024



Dates, Times of Services and Relevant Information for the Yamim Noraim

**There will be a Children's Service on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur - see page 20.*

Calendar

THE HIGH HOLY DAYS 5785/2024

ROSH HASHANAH FIRST DAY

Wednesday Night 2 and Thursday 3 October / 1 Tishrei

Prepare an Eruv Tavshilin before Yom Tov to allow cooking for Shabbat on Second Day (See Artscroll siddur, page 654 for instructions). Light a **yahrzeit candle** to facilitate candle lighting on second night Yom Tov.

Wednesday Night 2 October

18h15	Mincha
18h32	Candle Lighting - candles may be kindled earlier, from 17h33
18h30	Maariv
18h50	Sunset

Thursday 3 October

08h00	Shacharit
09h27	Latest time to say the Shemah
09h30	Torah Reading
10h15	Sermon
10h30	Sounding of the shofar, followed by Mussaf
16h30	Tashlich - meet at Liesbeek River, below Paradise Motors

ROSH HASHANAH SECOND DAY

Thursday Night 3 and Friday 4 October / 2 Tishrei

Thursday Night 3 October

18h15	Mincha
18h50	Maariv
18h50	Sunset
After 19h25	Candle lighting, from an existing flame

Friday 4 October

08h00	Shacharit
09h26	Latest time to say the Shemah
09h30	Torah Reading
10h15	Sermon
10h30	Sounding of the Shofar, followed by Mussaf
18h15	Mincha
18h30	Kabbalat Shabat followed by Maariv
18h34	Candle lighting, from an existing flame - candles may be kindled earlier, from 17h34
18h52	Sunset

Calendar

THE HIGH HOLY DAYS 5785/2024

SHABBAT SHUVAH (PARASHAT HAAZINU)

Friday 4 & Saturday 5 October / 3 Tishrei

Friday Night 4 October

18h15	Mincha
18h34	Candle Lighting - candles may be kindled earlier, from 17h34
18h30	Kabbalat Shabbat, followed by Maariv
18h52	Sunset

Saturday 23 September

09h00	Shacharit, followed by Kiddush Bracha
09h25	Latest time to say the Shemah
Approx. 12h15	Shabbat Shuvah Shiur following the Kiddush Bracha
13h05	Mincha
19h26	Shabbat ends (Full Havdalah)
19h50	Maariv

FAST OF GEDALIAH

Sunday 6 October / 4 Tishrei

05h01	Fast begins
07h30	Selichot, followed by Shacharit
18h00	Mincha, followed by Maariv
19h12	Fast ends

CHILDREN'S SERVICES WITH NAOMI

ROSH HASHANAH

Wednesday night 2 & Thursday night 3 October: 18h30
Thursday 3 and Friday 4 October: 10h00

YOM KIPPUR

Kol Nidrei - No service
Shabbat 12 October: 11h00-13h00
(Food will be available for young children under Bar/Bat Mitzvah)

Calendar

THE HIGH HOLY DAYS 5785/2024

YOM KIPPUR

Friday Night 11 and Shabbat 12 October / 10 Tishrei

It is customary to light a yartzeit candle before the onset of Yom Kippur to recall departed relatives. It is also customary to bless one's children. The blessing is found at the beginning of the Machzor.

Friday 11 October

06h30	Selichot followed by Shacharit
13h30	Early Mincha
18h39	Candle lighting – Yom Tov and Fast begins. Candles may be kindled earlier, if necessary, from 17h38. It is customary to light a Yahrzeit candle on the eve of Yom Kippur.
18h30	Kol Nidrei, followed by Maariv
18h57	Sunset

Shabbat 12 October

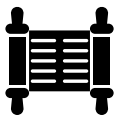
08h00	Shacharit
09h20	Latest time to say the Shemah
10h30	Torah Reading
11h15	Sermon
11h30	Yizkor, followed by Mussaf
16h15	Mincha
17h45	Sermon
18h00	Neilah followed by Maariv
19h32	Yom Tov and Fast ends (Full Havdalah, without spices)

YOUR Full-Service Community Shul



SHUL SERVICES

We offer Daily Minyanim, Shabbat and Festival services. Our services are heimish, slick and everyone joins in.



SHIURIM

Torah lessons on various topics from beginner level to advanced, as well as our CWest Adult Education programme that hosts several events every year.

CHILDREN'S SERVICE

Weekly children's services for children up to the age of 10 every Shabbat.



EVENTS

CWHC hosts a number of social and religious events during the year including First Night Pesach Seder, Purim Seudah, Chanukah party, Friday night dinners and special events.



KIDDUSH BROCHA & CATERING

We offer a wide range of baked and cooked goods for sale, Shabbat meals and special events and our world-renowned and famous Kiddush Brocha.



VENUE HIRE

Why not have your simcha, conference or event in the beautiful Adele Searle Hall? In-house catering or outside kosher caterers are welcome. Audio visual equipment and air conditioning as well as an outside area with views of Table Mountain.



LIBRARY

We have hundreds of English Torah books on many subjects to lend out and for reference. There is also an impressive children's library.



WEDDINGS

Let us guide you through the marriage process from application to the Beth Din, marriage lessons and everything in between. Rabbi Liebenberg is a licenced Marriage Officer.



BRIT MILAH & BABY NAMING

Why not have your son's bris or daughter's baby-naming at CWHC? Rabbi Liebenberg is a mohel and will assist you every step of the way. CWHC also issues naming certificates to parents of baby girls.



PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

Our shul sends out a weekly Shabbat newsletter, a Women's Learning Weekly (WLW) Torah publication, as well as special publications for Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah, Purim, Pesach and the Three Weeks. Rabbi Liebenberg also produces a short weekly YouTube video. The shul is on Facebook, Instagram and has various WhatsApp groups to share information and Torah messages.



FUNERALS & SHIVA HOUSE

CWHC is there to assist when a bereavement occurs. We will help plan the funeral and Shiva house in a sensitive and dignified manner. The shul also provides Kosher meals to those who are sitting Shiva.



MEZUZOT, LULAV & ETROG, TALLIS & TEFILLIN

As a service to the community we sell quality mezuzot, lulav & etrog and tallis and tefillin from a credible supplier. These may be paid off in instalments. We will also arrange for your mezuzot and tefillin to be checked by a qualified scribe.



YOM **KIPPUR**
APPEAL 5785

YOUR SHUL
YOUR COMMUNITY

**Today, more than ever, YOUR shul and
community really needs YOU!**

EFT Payments

Bank: **Standard Bank**

Account: **CWHC** Account No: **072 556 110**

Branch Code: **025109**

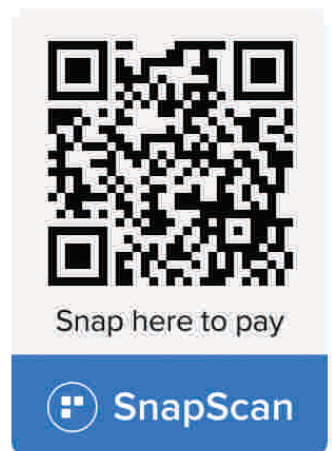
Credit Card Payments

Contact Melanie Harman

Email: melanie@cwhc.co.za Tel: **021 671 9007**



<https://www.walletdoc.com/pay/ClareWynShul>





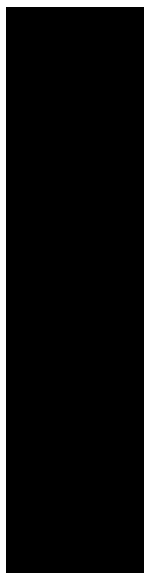
THIS LAND IS MY LAND

**THE JEWISH PEOPLE ARE IN A STATE OF SEVERE TRAUMA.
IT IS A TRAUMA THAT BEGAN ON SHABBAT, SEVENTH OF
OCTOBER 2023, SIMCHAT TORAH 5784.**





BY RABBI MATTHEW LIEBENBERG

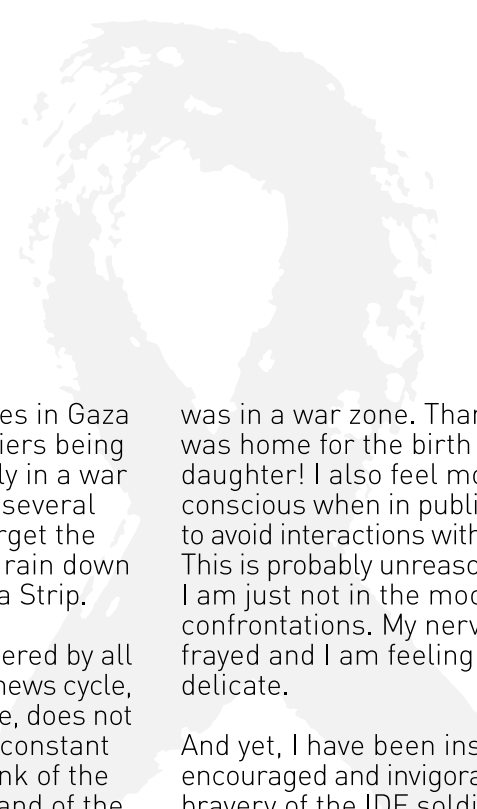


I arrived at shul in a joyous mood for the Shemini Atzeret service (in the diaspora Simchat Torah is one day later than Israel), only to be informed by the CSO protector that there was a terror attack in progress in the south of Israel. At that stage, the details were vague and the full extent of the horrific pogrom was not yet known. When I returned for Mincha later that day, the protector told me that some twenty one Israeli settlements were in the hands of Hamas terrorists, as well as some army bases and police stations. It was then that I realised that a completely different attack had occurred, both in quality and quantity. In the days that followed, information began to trickle out: over a thousand people murdered, hundreds taken hostage and entire communities destroyed. Then we learned that the sick and twisted Hamas thugs had filmed their atrocities. In my naivety, I thought that, for once, the world would take pity on Israel and come to her defence. No person in his right mind would side with such barbarism and cruelty. Unfortunately, I was completely mistaken. Perhaps this is how Jews felt after Kristallnacht in November 1938. They must have thought, "Surely the world will now see the true evil of the Nazis and come to our aid!" Alas, it was not to be.

The terror attack of the seventh of October and the resultant war in Gaza has unleashed a torrent of hatred against the State of Israel and the Jewish people. There have been massive and often violent anti-Israel demonstrations in many major cities. Jewish students at American universities, including top Ivy League institutions, have been threatened with violence. Media outlets have swallowed Palestinian propaganda



IDF Spokesperson, Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, has been a constant feature on international news networks since October 7 - updating the media on Israel's position with regards to the war in Gaza, the hostages held by Hamas in Gaza and the conflict with Hezbollah in the North of Israel.



and ganged up against the Jewish State. The Secretary General of the United Nations said that while the Hamas attack was awful, *“it did not happen in a vacuum”*, thereby becoming an apologist for terror. Responding to the question, *“Does a call for genocide against Jews violate your school’s code of conduct?”* at a congressional hearing in December, three major university presidents answered that, *“it depends on the context.”* If this flood of anti-Semitism were not enough, here in South Africa, the ANC hosted Hamas leaders, sent the Minister of International Relations to Tehran and laid a claim of genocide against the State of Israel at the International Court of Justice at The Hague. Add to all of this the fact that there are still

over a hundred hostages in Gaza and there are IDF soldiers being killed and maimed daily in a war that is taking place on several fronts. And let’s not forget the incessant rockets that rain down on Israel from the Gaza Strip.

I am feeling rather battered by all of this and the endless news cycle, which is mostly negative, does not help. I find myself in a constant state of anxiety as I think of the plight of the hostages and of the safety of our own extended family in Israel, several of whom were called for duty on the seventh of October. Lee’s first cousin’s son was one of those called up. His wife was expecting their fifth child. I cannot imagine how she must have felt knowing her husband

was in a war zone. Thankfully he was home for the birth of his daughter! I also feel more self-conscious when in public and I try to avoid interactions with Muslims. This is probably unreasonable, but I am just not in the mood for any confrontations. My nerves are frayed and I am feeling very delicate.

And yet, I have been inspired, encouraged and invigorated by the bravery of the IDF soldiers; the faith and courage of regular Israelis and the incredible unity of the Jewish people at this difficult time. Of the many inspirational people who have emerged at this time, Rabbi Doron (Lawrence) and Shelley Perez stand out as true heroes.

“The terror attack of the seventh of October and the resultant war in Gaza has unleashed a torrent of hatred against the State of Israel and the Jewish people.”

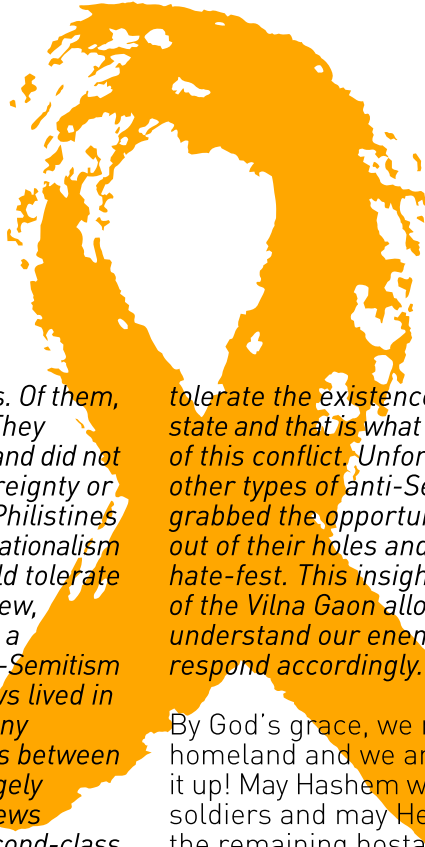
R

Rabbi Perez was raised in Johannesburg and Shelley in Cape Town. They were a highly respected rabbinical couple in Johannesburg for many years. They had a close connection to our shul and were frequent visitors to CWHC until they made Aliyah in 2014, when Rabbi Perez took up the position of Executive Chairman of World Mizrahi. On 7 October, two of the Perez's sons, Yonatan and Daniel, raced to the south to fight the terrorists. Yonatan, who was engaged to be married, was injured, and Daniel was taken hostage. In an act of bravery and faith, the Perez family decided to continue with Yonatan's wedding, notwithstanding the predicament of Daniel, who was still missing in action. Several months later, he was declared dead by the IDF based on video footage (see a tribute to him and his family elsewhere in this magazine). I cannot begin to imagine the pain and trauma of Daniel's parents, siblings and extended family. Yet Rabbi Perez continues to inspire with his words of Torah and encouragement.

I would like to share an incredible teaching that I heard from Rabbi Perez several years ago: *In the Song of the Sea, the Israelites said (Shmot 15:14-15), "Nations heard, they were agitated; trembling has gripped the inhabitants of Philistia. Then the chieftains of Edom were alarmed; trembling gripped the powerful leaders of Moab; all the inhabitants of Canaan have dissipated."* Rabbi Perez cited the Vilna Gaon on the prophet Habakkuk (3:14 in Aderet Eliyahu). *The Vilna Gaon explains that the Philistines, the Edomites and the Moabites are three enemies of the Jewish people - Moab to the east, Edom to the south and the Philistines to the west. Moab is the 'father of impurity' through*



Rabbi Doron Perez.



whom the Israelites were impurified. This a reference to the scheme of sending their womenfolk to have illicit relations with the Jewish men (Bamidbar 25). Moab represent those who hate the Jewish religion and attempt to alienate Jews from God through immoral behaviour and other means. The Greeks would fall into this category. This is religious anti-Semitism, the type practised by Christians for centuries. Edom, the nation that descended from Esau, were fixated on the destruction of Jews. This would include Amalek (Esau's grandson), Haman, the Romans and the Nazis. It is not enough for them to destroy the Jewish religion. They seek the destruction of every Jew. This is racial anti-Semitism. And then

there were the Philistines. Of them, the Vilna Gaon writes, "They oppressed Israel greatly and did not allow them to have sovereignty or independent rule." The Philistines were opposed to Jewish nationalism and statehood. They could tolerate a Jew, even a religious Jew, provided he did not have a homeland. This is the anti-Semitism of the Muslim world. Jews lived in Islamic countries for many generations and relations between the two groups were largely peaceful, provided the Jews accepted their role as second-class citizens ('dhimmi'). However, when the State of Israel was proclaimed, the Arab countries rose up against their Jewish citizens, killing them and sending them into exile. The Muslim world simply cannot

tolerate the existence of a Jewish state and that is what is at the heart of this conflict. Unfortunately, the other types of anti-Semites have grabbed the opportunity to crawl out of their holes and join in the hate-fest. This insightful teaching of the Vilna Gaon allows us to understand our enemies and respond accordingly.

By God's grace, we now have a homeland and we are not giving it up! May Hashem watch over our soldiers and may He return all of the remaining hostages speedily to their families.

“By God’s grace, we now have a homeland and we are not giving it up! May Hashem watch over our soldiers and may He return all of the remaining hostages speedily to their families.”

CWEST AND SHUL EVENTS 5784 (2023/24)

The Jewish year 5784 (September 2023 - September 2024) was a busy time for Claremont Wynberg Shul. We had numerous CWEST and other events. Here are some of the highlights:

The Shabbos Project 3/4 November Stronger Together

The Theme for the Shabbos Project was "Stronger Together". Following the tragedy of 7th October, Chief Rabbi Goldstein decided to dedicate this annual event to Jewish unity. We hosted a large luncheon at the shul with guest speaker Mr Steven Swart, ACDP Parliamentary Member and Parliamentary Whip. He spoke passionately about why he and his party - religious Christians - stand with Israel and the Jewish people. It was refreshing to hear that we do have many friends out there!

We Were Caught Unawares - Five Stories Of Shock And Reaction live from Ramat Beit Shemesh with Jonty Blackman on Zoom 14 November

Jonty Blackman, veteran tour guide, shared a number of stories regarding the way in which regular Israelis reacted to the attack on 7th October. As usual, Jonty employed images and videos to illustrate his fascinating talk of tragedy, heroism and hope.

7th night Chanukah Wednesday 13 December

CWHC and Constantia Shul joined forces to celebrate the festival of light. There was a relaxed atmosphere as congregants enjoyed a burger and boerie braai before lighting the menorah.

Appeal for the soldiers of the IDF

The shul was involved in a number of appeals for the IDF. Congregants donated essential items such as toiletries, clothing, protective gear and cash. In December there was special appeal for raptor shears, a specialised field knife that is vital for soldiers in

the front lines. We raised over R140 000 which allowed the soldiers to purchase 58 knives. We received the following note of thanks:

Dearest Lee and the Cape Town Community,

I wanted to take a moment to express my thanks for your donations of essential equipment to our troops in the field. Your generosity and support means a lot to us and will make a real difference in their safety and operational capabilities. Your support and contributions show us that the SA communities stand with us in these tough times and it's a lovely thing to see. Thank you especially for the raptor shears, an essential item for EMTs, paramedics and doctors in the field/trauma environment. Thank you so much for your great contribution.

*Warm regards,
Zac and Li'el Elkus, and the IDF troops*

Harry Amdurer Shabbat 24 February and 2 March

Our favourite and beloved Mancunian returned to CWHC to deliver the sermons and give shiurim while Rabbi was in Israel with his family celebrating the wedding of Oren Katzeff to Talia Howard. As usual Harry presented witty, humorous and insightful comments on the weekly parsha and the current global situation.

Purim 5784 - Sunday 24 March We will dance again

CWHC once again united with Constantia Shul to host a fabulous Purim banquet with popular DJ Cosher (alias Colin Sher, cousin of Jackie Merris). The theme was Israel, with falafel and shawarma being the main items on the menu. There was a great crowd, plenty of children's games and prizes for best costumes. Highlights were Sinclair Wynchank in full Scottish garb and Rabbi Liebenberg as the grim reaper!

Rabbi Ramon Widmonte Shavuot 5784 - 12 and 13 June

Rabbi Widmonte is one of the true gems of the South African Rabbinate. He is the Dean of the Academy of Jewish Thought and Learning, an organisation that teaches Judaism at the highest levels. The community enjoyed a communal dinner on first night at which Rabbi Widmonte spoke on the topic, “*Jewish Unity - from Shavuot 2448 to Yom Kippur 2023 to October 7th and beyond.*”

I survived Be’eri on October 7 Live interview on 18 June

With thanks to the South African Zionist Federation and the Green and Sea Point Shul, CWHC hosted a young couple, a South African *olah* and her *Sabra* boyfriend who were in Be’eri on 7 October. Rabbi Liebenberg served as the interviewer. The trauma was still very apparent on the faces of these young people. They told of how they spent the whole day barricaded in their safe room while terrorists murdered kibbutz members all around them. They have since moved back to Be’eri and are attempting to rebuild their shattered lives.

Mandela Day Thursday 18 July

On one of the coldest and rainiest mornings of winter, a team of CWHC volunteers served hot Jungle Oats

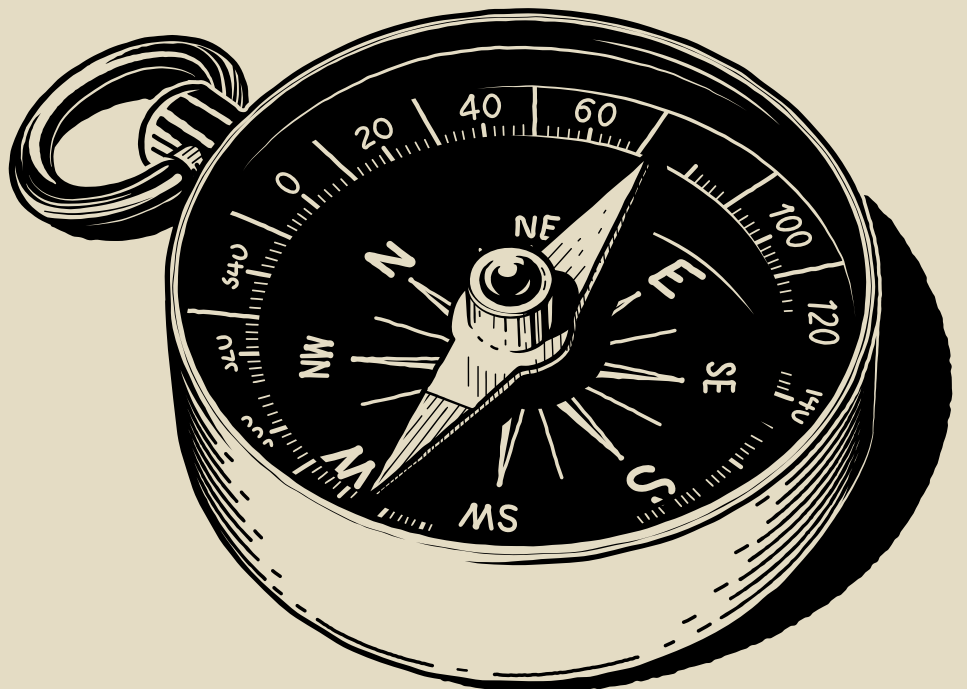
and fresh fruit to scores of passersby making their way up Grove Avenue to work or school. We received many wonderful compliments with one lady remarking that she wished every day was Mandela Day! Thank you to our wonderful volunteers!

Tisha B’Av 12 and 13 August

Tisha B’Av is the national day of mourning for the Jewish people. This year there was a definite emphasis on the events of the 7th October. After the reading of the book of Lamentations we sung a new *kinah* (elegy) composed by Rabbi Yosef Zvi Rimon about the pogrom of Simchat Torah 5784 in the south of Israel. Two films were shown: *October 7 - Voices Of Pain, Hope And Heroism*, produced by Aish HaTorah and *Screams Before Silence*, by a former Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg. In this harrowing documentary, Sandberg interviews survivors and first responders of the 2023 Hamas attack, highlighting sexual violence during the incident. Dr Dave Scher gave an excellent talk of the Entebbe Raid. Unfortunately the taking of Israeli hostages still remains a real issue in our time.

**“OUR SHULS ARE WHERE COMMUNITY HAPPENS,
MORE THAN ANYWHERE ELSE. I’LL GO FURTHER
- OUR SHULS ARE, IN THE MOST REAL, TANGIBLE
WAY, WHAT MAKES US A COMMUNITY,”**

CHIEF RABBI WARREN GOLDSTEIN



RECIPES FOR YOUR YOM TOV TABLE

BY REBBETZIN LEE



**PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE
AT ADMIN@CWHC.CO.ZA FOR A
LIST OF OUR SPECIALITY
BAKED GOODS OR TO SPONSOR
A KIDDUSH BROCHA IN HONOUR
OF A SIMCHA, YAHRZEIT OR
SPECIAL OCCASION.**

The legendary catering at CWHC is managed by Rebbetzin Lee and her excellent team of very capable workers comprised of Jacques Itombo, Lucy Menzeleli and Annie Manzambi. Together they prepare the most delicious Shabbat meals; baked goods (including our famous homemade kichel, cheesecake, melktert and bulkes); special breakfasts (featuring Gary's famous hash browns) and, of course, the shul's legendary Kiddush Brocha!

APPLE SORBET

This a firm favourite in the Liebenberg home during the holiday period from Rosh Hashanah to Sukkot. It is refreshing, sweet and addictive! It can also be served between courses to cleanse the palate from the taste of all that rich brisket you ate! Perfect for a Shana Tova U'metuka! This recipe is from Sharon Lurie, the Kosher Butcher's Wife, in her collection *Celebrating With the Butcher's Wife* (Struik Publishers, 2011)

2 x Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored and quartered
1 Cup of water
Half cup icing sugar
1 Drop green colouring (optional)
1 Litre apple juice (Liqui-Fruit Clear Apple and Woolworths Apple Juice are both certified Kosher)

1. Boil the apples in a saucepan with the water and icing sugar. Once the apples are soft, remove the pan from the heat and blend with a hand blender or in a food processor. Add the apple juice and mix well. If you want it to look a little greener, then add 1 drop of green colouring and mix very well.

2. Pour the mixture through a strainer into a rectangular container and freeze for six hours.

3. Remove from the freezer and rake the sorbet with a fork, mixing it up well. Alternatively, scoop it out and blend in a food processor until smooth. Raking it makes it look more like a granita, whereas blending it while frozen makes it more velvety and smooth. Refreeze.

4. Remove from the freezer about ten minutes before serving to soften it a little. Serves 12.

Ess gesunderheid!

SHANA NAH TO VAH

Wishing all the wonderful CWHC members a sweet and good New Year! Ketiva V'Chatima Tova.

Lots of love Rabbi, Lee, Chani Merryl and Naomi

Shana Tova Tikateivu! Wishing you a sweet New Year and a meaningful Fast.

Marlon, Michelle, Aiyon and Kieran Shevelew

Very good wishes for Rosh Hashanah and a meaningful Fast. Am Israel Chai!

Ben-Zion & Esther Surdut and family

To life and to peace

With love Amanda Katz, Tamara, Harry, Jo and Alice

Wishing all congregants and friends a very peaceful 5785, Shanah Tova.

Charles, Deta, Jake and Adam

L'Shana Tovah, Happy New Year to all family and friends
From Felicity and Leon Goussard

Best wishes

From Seymour & Jocelyn Stoch

Wishing Rabbi, Lee and all congregants Shana Tova U'Metukah

Dian, Brian, Nathalie and Alexa van der Vijver

To Rabbi Liebenberg, Lee, Chani Meryl & Naomi & all our family and friends, wishing you Shana Tova U'Metuka. May your New Year be filled with good health, happiness, love and peace. May you have an easy and meaningful Fast & be inscribed in the Book of Life.

From Larry, Nicole, Jaidon and Samuel Sherman

Shana tovah u'metukah and well over the Fast.

Love Brian, Adele, Daren and Meg Fuchs and Kelli, Farril, Presley and Indiana Rosen



Shana Tova and well over the Fast. Prayers for peace in the coming year.

With love Leon, Bev and Michael Cohen

Wishing all our family and friends Shana Tova and well over the Fast.

Steven & Jocelyn Horwitz and family

Wishing all their family and friends a Shana Tovah. May the year ahead be a healthy, happy and sweet one filled with laughter, good friends and only Simchas. Ketivah v'chatima tovah.

Hymie & Shirley Kaplan

Wishing our special Claremont Wynberg family a *Shana Tova u'Metukah*. May we all be inscribed and sealed for a year of good health, happiness, success - and peace for all of *Am Yisrael*.

Joel, Jackie, Adam and Daniel Merris

ROSH HASHANAH

QUIZ

Gaby Fachler lives in Modiin, Israel with his wife Rachel and their four children. He grew up in Johannesburg and made Aliyah 25 years ago. He learned in Yeshivat Har Etzion and in the Yeshiva Gedolah of Johannesburg. Gaby runs two ecommerce websites with his wife and has been writing a weekly parsha quiz since 2020. He initially started the quiz to try bring some content and calm to his frantic Friday night Shabbos table.

Today, Gaby's PARSHA QUIZ is distributed weekly to hundreds of families worldwide.

Email GABY@PACKFORCAMP.COM to subscribe.

BY **GABY FACHLER**

1. How is Rosh Hashanah referred to in the Torah?

- a. *Yom Teruah* (The Day of Sounding [the shofar]).
- b. *Rosh Hashanah* (The Head of the Year).
- c. *Yom HaDin* (The Day of Judgement).
- d. All of the above.

2. We celebrate Rosh Hashanah on the first of Tishrei. The first Mishna in Tractate Rosh Hashanah, talks about four different types of New Year dates. Which of the following New Year dates do NOT start on the first of Tishrei?

- a. The new year for *Shmitta* (Sabbatical year) and *Yovel* (Jubilee year).
- b. The new year for planting, to measure the amount of years for *Orlah*, the 3 years when you can't use the fruits of a tree.
- c. The new year for kings which we use to count the years that a king has ruled.
- d. The new year for vegetables for calculating when to take *terumot* and *maasrot* (tithes) on vegetables.

3. Which of the following took place on Rosh Hashanah according to opinions in the Talmud?

- a. The sixth day of creation when Adam and Eve were created.
- b. Joseph was released from prison in Egypt.
- c. Slavery in Egypt ended and the redemption began.
- d. All of the above.

4. When do we say Hallel on Rosh Hashanah?

- a. During breakfast.
- b. As part of *Shacharit*.
- c. As part of *Mussaf*.
- d. We don't say Hallel on *Rosh Hashanah*.

5. Rosh Hashanah is also known as *Yom Hadin*, the day of judgement. According to the Talmud, Hashem opens three books of judgement on Rosh Hashanah. One for the righteous, one for the wicked and one for the people in the middle. When is the final judgement for all these groups?

- a. The final judgement for all of them is sealed on *Yom Kippur*.
- b. The final judgement for all of them is sealed on *Rosh Hashanah*.
- c. The wicked and righteous are judged finally on *Rosh Hashanah* and the in-between people can work on themselves until *Yom Kippur* when final judgement is passed.
- d. The fate of the whole world depends on whether or not the children clean their rooms before *Shemini Azteret*.

6. The middle section of *Mussaf* is divided into three parts. Which of the following, is NOT one of those three sections?

- a. *Kaparot* (Atonements).
- b. *Malchuyot* (Kingship).
- c. *Shofarot* (Verses speaking of the shofar).
- d. *Zichronot* (*Hashem's* remembrance)

7. What days of the week can the first day of Rosh Hashanah never fall on?

- a. Sunday, Wednesday or Friday.
- b. It cannot coincide with the Super Bowl, the World Cup final or the Eurovision.
- c. It can fall on any day of the week.
- d. Tuesday, Thursday or Shabbat.

8. Most *chagim* are celebrated for one day in Israel and for two days in the diaspora. Rosh Hashanah, however, is the only *chag* that people in Israel also celebrate for two days. Why?

- a. Because the Torah says that *Rosh Hashanah* is a two-day festival.
- b. Because when the Sanhedrin used to declare *Rosh Chodesh* based on witnesses, there was always a doubt when *Rosh Chodesh* would be so they decreed that we should celebrate two days.
- c. Because it's *Yom Hadin* and the whole world is judged together, the Sages decreed that it should be two days for everyone, even though the Torah says it should only be one day.
- d. There was a big debate which type of herring we should eat at the first *kiddush* of the year, pepper or mustard, so the Sages decreed two days for two *kiddushes*.

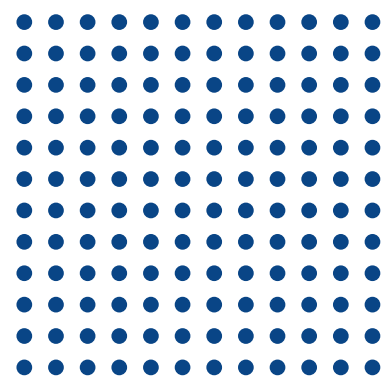
9. The Torah tells us to blow the shofar on *Rosh Hashanah* but does not give a reason. What reason did our Sages give for this *mitzvah*?

- a. When a king is crowned, we blow a trumpet, and this is the day when *Hashem* created the world and was crowned as king.
- b. Because *Rosh Hashanah* is the first day of The Ten Days of Repentance, the shofar is a call to do *teshuva*.
- c. The shofar reminds us of Mount Sinai because a shofar was blown then as well and we re-accept the Torah on ourselves on *Rosh Hashanah*.
- d. All of the above.

10. Very hard question to round up the year: On the night of *Rosh Hashanah* we eat different foods with positive symbolism for the New Year. Which of the following are one of the foods that we eat on *Rosh Hashanah*?

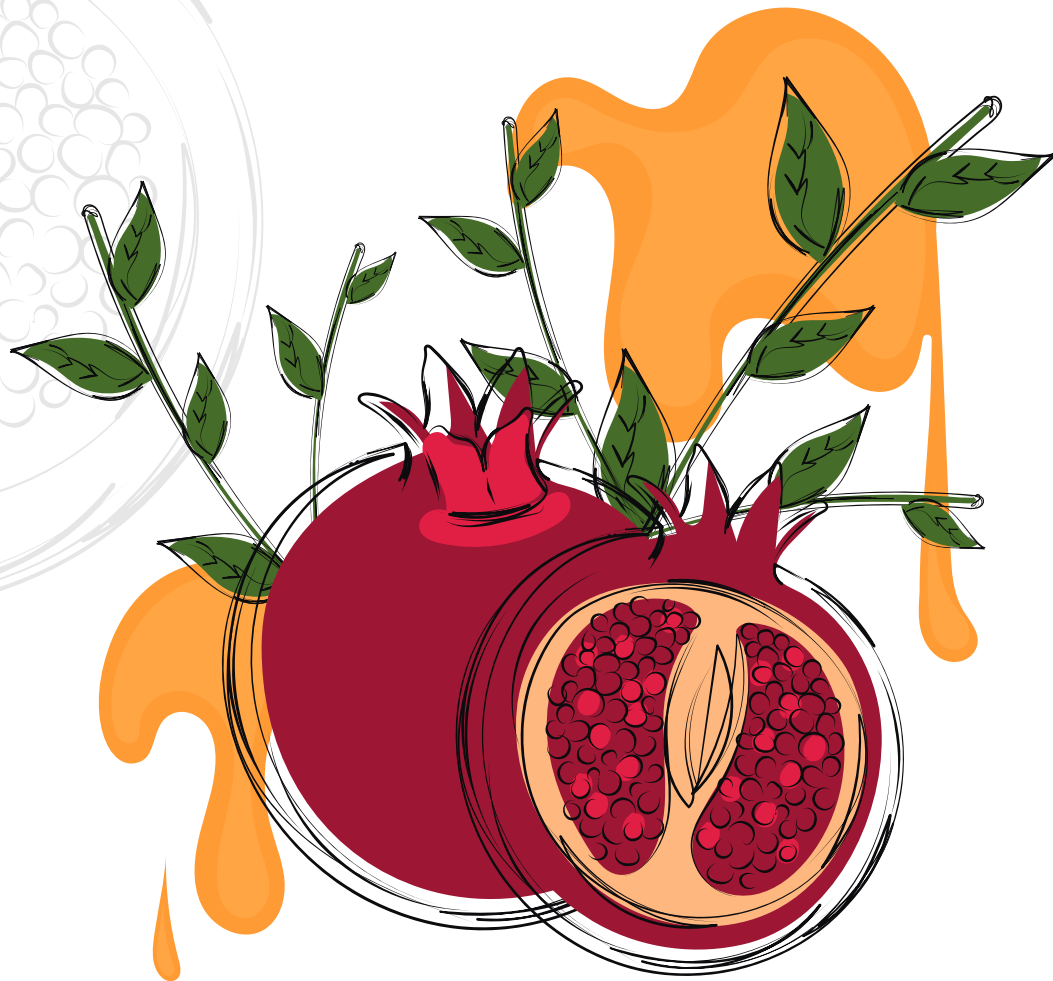
- a. Crackers dipped in Marmite for a controversial New Year.
- b. *P'tcha*, calves foot jelly, dipped in toe-jam for a brave New Year.
- c. Jelly beans dipped in Coca-Cola for a very active New Year.
- d. Apples dipped in honey for a Sweet New Year.

Answers: 1.A, 2.C, 3.D, 4.D, 5.C, 6.A, 7.A, 8.B, 9.D, 10.D



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Shana Tova u' Metuka 5785

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