

KEHILLAT SHIVTEI YISRAEL

Yamim Noraim 5785



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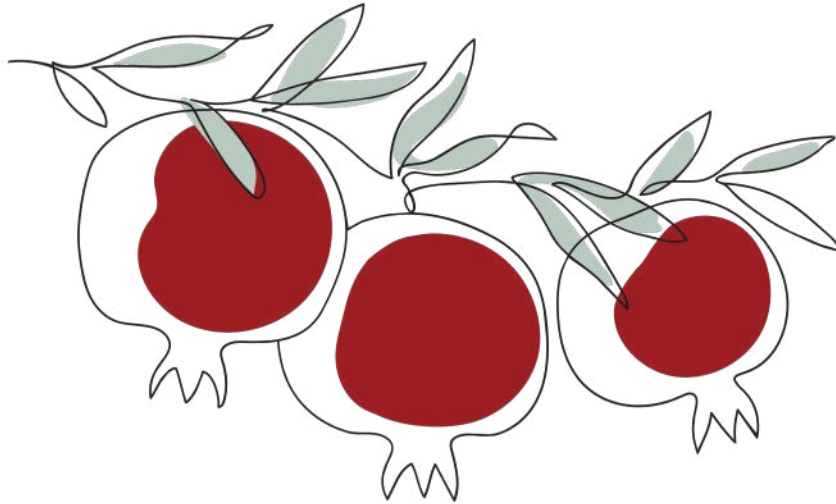
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'WHILE THE GUEST SPEAKER SERIES AND SKILL-BUILDING ACTIVITIES WERE CRUCIAL, THE HEART OF OUR EFFORTS LAY IN THE IMMENSE AMOUNT OF CHESED WORK THAT OUR YOUTH UNDERTOOK.'

JEREMY KAYE

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Pioneer Wealth Management wishes the Shivtei Yisrael
Community Shana Tova Umetuka.

We hope that the new year will bring peace and quiet for
all of us, the safe return of our hostages and security forces,
and a full recovery of all those injured.

Wishing for only good news.

Am Yisrael Chai

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Welcome to Shivtei's 5785 Yamim Noraim Magazine. We as a community have pulled together in the most remarkable way over the last 12 months, exemplifying what it means to be a true 'Kehilla.' Your selflessness and dedication to not just fellow members of Shivtei, but to all of Am Yisrael is what makes our shul exceptionally special.

We have chosen the theme of this year's magazine to be ביחד ננצח and dedicate it to the safe return home of all our soldiers, hostages and evacuees.

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בברכת שנה טובה וחתימה טובה

ALON & MELANIE RONEN AND FAMILY

SHANA TOVA

To all of Shivtei from
Deborah, Michael,
Dalia, Yoav, Yael,
Dan and Ella Dickson

עם ישראל חי

IN THIS NEW YEAR MAY WE MERIT TO
HEAR GOOD NEWS AND MAY ALL
THOSE WHO ARE AWAY - HOSTAGES,
SOLDIERS, AND THE DISPLACED -
FIND THEMSELVES BACK TO THEIR
HOMES AND LOVED ONES SOON

*Shana
Tova*

To our wonderful Shivtei community



JOSH, ELI, MIA, SHANI AND AVI RUDOLPH

BY ANDY ALBUM

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

It's impossible to fathom all that has happened to us in the last year. It's been a year of tragedy and trauma the likes of which almost none of us have known in our adult lifetimes.

As we approach the Yamim Noraim, I think that a place where we can find inspiration for the year ahead is within our Dalet Amot, here at Shivtei, our small corner of Eretz Yisrael.

Whilst it has been a year of immense challenge on a national level, I hope you will agree that it has concurrently been a year of phenomenal success at the communal level. It truly has. And we should all pause and reflect on Shivtei's significant accomplishments as a kehilla, with unending Hakarat HaTov to HaShem for this.

As Sivan Rahav Meir said in front of a packed shul earlier this summer, we have brought excellence in shul communal life to Israel and built Shivtei into something that is really special.

We all should be incredibly proud of this. If there has been tragedy these past few months, there is also something amazing which we are a part of.

And so my focus in this report is not to be complacent but to reflect on what we have achieved as a kehilla which will hopefully inspire all of us to focus on what is good in our lives as well as the challenges:

- We began last Rosh Hashana's tefillot in our newly refurbished sanctuary and this year our beautifully renovated hall will be the venue for our second on-campus minyan, thanks to the generous support of Danna Azrieli and Danny Hakim.

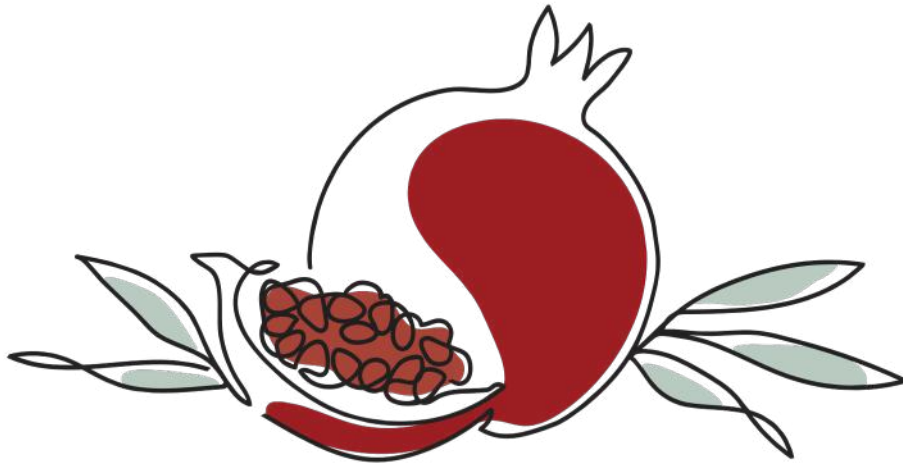


- Shivtei Youth are being led by an outstanding couple - Dudi and Rivka Stern – who joined us in August. They will continue to build on the outstanding achievements of their predecessors.
- We have long been renowned as a place of chesed. Since October 7 we have added a further dimension to our contribution to Israeli society, having raised and distributed millions of shekels to those impacted by or fighting in the war.

We at Shivtei truly are “uniquely blessed” to be a part of the family we have chosen.

Let me end by thanking every single person in this kehilla for their contribution and to pray that with the help of the Ribono Shel Olam it should be a year of continued success for Shivtei, good health for us all, a swift return of the chatufim and victory over our enemies. Perhaps it could even be the year when we have the merit, after the pain we have endured over the past eleven months, to witness the ultimate geulah. Bimheira, v'yamenu

Amen.



Your Rosh HaShana Resolution for 5784?

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Andrew Album, Senior Wealth Manager
054-6559261, andrewa@piowealth.com

Dear Shivtei Community,

This Yamim Noraim, almost every line in the machzor will illuminate the difficult experiences we have endured over the past year. As we approach the pinnacle of our davening with the recitation of נתנה תוקף, we will passionately proclaim, as we do each year, "ותשובה ותפילה וצדקה מעבירין את רוע הגזרה" - Repentance, Prayer, and Charity can undo the evil decree." We will scream these words with unwavering faith, while perhaps grappling with feelings of doubt (will this really be enough?). Yet, we hold onto the profound hope that our efforts—our repentance, our acts of tzedakah, and our heartfelt prayers—can indeed tear apart the evil decrees that have befallen us.

What is particularly striking about these three concepts—repentance, prayer, and charity—is their practicality. They represent actions we can actively take; they are rooted in what is within our control. In a world filled with uncertainty, these actions serve as a grounding force.

I would like to propose an alternative way to understand these three concepts that may help sustain us throughout this year.

Regardless of the challenges we face, the setbacks we endure, or the pain we feel, it is crucial to remember three enduring truths that correspond to these essential ideas:

WE ARE THE ETERNAL PEOPLE - עם ישראל היא עם הנצחית

Despite the ups and downs we experience, we are Hashem's eternal people. Our history has shown that we always make a comeback; we are the ultimate underdog who never truly loses. The concept of teshuva embodies this notion of return. Even when we stumble and fall, we possess the strength to rise again. Redemption follows exile.



WE PUT OUR FAITH IN HASHEM - אין לנו אלא אבינו שבשמים

The miraculous nature of the Jewish people cannot be explained without a deep sense of faith. Our prayers, or tefillah, embody this ultimate act of faith. Through our prayers, we look upward and acknowledge עוד מלבדו אין—there is nothing but Hashem. We realize that our trust must reside solely in Him, for אין לנו אלא אבינו שבשמים—we have no one but our Father in Heaven.

WE LOVE EACH OTHER - אהבת עם ישראל

Despite our differences in opinion or even our disagreements with each other, our love for every Jew endures. This is beautifully illustrated through the practice of tzedakah. We open our hearts to one another, even if our initial reaction might be to sometimes clench our fists. In giving, we express our shared national destiny, our unbreakable bonds and our commitment to one another.

With these three core tenets of faith—our resilience as a people, our unshakeable trust in Hashem, and our boundless love for each other—we can face whatever challenges this year may bring without losing our footing.

Continued on page 8



With Love in Honor of
Bradley Ellerine.
May His Memory Bless our
Community.
L'Shanah Tovah U'Metukah



Shanah Tovah
Gill & Rob
Hyde

CONT BY RABBI BENDAVID

May this Yamim Noraim guide us toward a profound sense of connection and strength.

Together, let us navigate the uncertainties of the year ahead with courage and faith.

Our community rose to the challenges of this past year with incredible mesirut nefesh. I have no doubt we will rise to the challenges of this year as well.

May the hostages return home safely.

May our chayalim return home safely from the battlefield.

May all our people be inscribed in the Book of Life.

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This year saw the Sunday Morning Chabura return in a new and revamped format to learn Tzurba M'Rabanan, thanks to the generosity of Justin Jacks and his family. Led by Rav Bendavid, over twenty men gather each week over freshly brewed coffee and Victory's finest rugelach to learn Hilchot Shabbat through the practical lens of 2024. Join us at 9 a.m. on Sundays for a wide-ranging and highly engaging shiur!

DRASHA FROM YEARS PAST

Shortly before Simchat Torah, I received a WhatsApp message from Natan Gelber (son of Kenny and Bettina), a young former member of Shivtei currently living in the U.S. He told me he'd been reflecting on a drasha I gave about 14 years ago on Rosh Hashana, and asked if I could find and send it to him. He mentioned how it had changed his experience of the Yamim Noraim and said it was on his mind a lot, especially after the fiasco of the outdoor Yom Kippur davening in Tel Aviv.

His message stirred a mix of emotions in me. On one hand, as a Rabbi, you sometimes feel like no one is really listening. But here was someone who remembered a drasha from over a decade ago! On the other hand, I felt a bit of existential dread—do people really remember drashot for that long? I thought I could recycle them every couple of years!

After finding the drasha and sending it to him, I realized how frighteningly relevant it is to our current situation, so I've "remastered" and presented it here.

Shivtei Yisrael – the Tribes of Israel. It's a powerful name and a powerful concept, especially on this day when we proclaim the coronation of the King of the Universe. The Arizal teaches that there are 12 windows in Shamayim, corresponding to the 12 tribes. Each tribe represents a unique type of Jew, each with its own strengths. Correspondingly, each tribe has its own nusach of prayer. Even in our davening, there is a division of labor; everyone has a role to play.

Yet, the Arizal also established that before davening, every person should accept the mitzvah of "ואהבת לרעך כמוך" (to love your neighbor as yourself). This line is printed at the beginning of Shacharit in many Chabad siddurim. The recognition that we are each a part of the larger



Klal Yisrael, a unified body greater than the sum of its parts, is integral to our prayers.

On Rosh Hashana, the difference between a yachid (individual) and a tzibbur (community) is even more profound. The Shulchan Aruch states that if you're davening alone, you shouldn't pray Mussaf during the first three hours of the day. The Mishna Berurah explains that this is the most intense period of judgment, and no individual could withstand God's intimate scrutiny. But when you daven with a tzibbur—ah, that's an entirely different story.

Rabbeinu Bechayey discusses the powerful idea of **עם**—**אין מלך בלא עם**—"There is no king without a people." Hashem is all-powerful, but there is one thing He cannot be without our "help" - a King. And this is a day to focus on accepting His Kingship. But perhaps we need to focus equally on becoming an **עם**, a unified people. An **עם**, by definition, must be united. God created the world for a purpose, and that purpose is fulfilled when we act as a nation to sanctify His name and further His will. Hashem will never destroy His **עם** because that would nullify the purpose of creation. But no individual is indispensable to His plan.

In 1980, the USA shocked the world by defeating the powerhouse Soviet team in the semifinal game of the Winter Olympics. They went on to win the gold medal against Finland. A movie called Miracle was made about this incredible feat.

CONT BY RAV DANI SCHREIBER

In one scene, the coach, Herb Brooks, asks the players where they're from and who they play for. Each one says their name and the college they came from—many were rivals and didn't get along, even though they were playing for the same national team. Later, after a disappointing tie, the coach makes them do skate suicides—a grueling drill—for hours. He doesn't let them stop, even after the lights go off in the rink. Finally, one player understands the lesson and calls out his name, saying he plays for the USA. Only then does the coach let them stop.

But it's not so simple. My Rosh Kollel at the YU Gross Kollel, Rabbi Dovid Miller, shared a sad story from the Holocaust told by the Bluzhever Rebbe. In the camps, Jews banded together—Bundists, secular Jews, Chassidim, Misnagdim. But the moment they were liberated, they separated again.

I had a frightening thought about the parshiyot of the tochacha (admonitions). I haven't seen this idea elsewhere, but I believe there's some truth to it. What if Hashem doesn't send us into galus or

hit us with tragedies to punish us? What if He does it because He knows that, sadly, tragedy is the only way to bring us together?

From a unity perspective, October 6th was the worst we've been in years, and October 8th was the best by far. Remember the feeling of strength and pride we had in our soldiers? The BBQs, the Tehillim, the volunteering, the tzedakah?

We must figure out how to unite without needing a tzara (tragedy). Because if we don't, it's only a matter of time before we disintegrate once more into a state where the only way we can band together again is through pain and suffering. We need to figure it out now. Rosh Hashana is a time of tzibbur, of דב .

The shofar has many layers of symbolism. But one of them is the rallying cry for the whole army to band together for one cause.

My name is Dani Schreiber. I'm originally from Brooklyn, New York, now from Ra'anana, Israel, and I play for Am Yisrael.

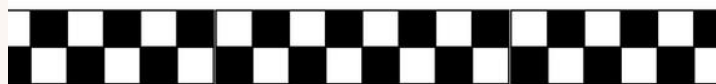


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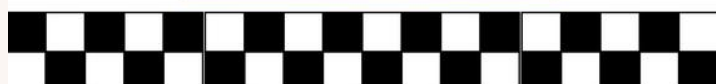
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Wishing the community a
Shanah Tovah U'Metukah



BY RABBANIT ETTA BENDAVID

FROM EPHEMERAL SHADOW TO ETERNAL SHADE: YIZKOR, ONE YEAR LATER

Dedicated to strengthening our chayalim, in memory of all the fallen, for refuah shleyma to all injured, and the safe return of all the hostages.

An old Jewish legend tells of the Hebrew poet Solomon Ibn Gavirol, who, despite his early death, sprouted life from his grave. Pensive and passionate, he wished to be buried with a fig in his hand. When he died—reportedly killed by a jealous Muslim poet—his wish was honored. Years later, a fig tree grew from his grave, bearing the most beautiful fruit in Spain.

This tale illustrates how life can emerge from death. It shows how we can transform pain into purpose and maintain connections with those we have lost while embarking on life ahead.

After a year marked by death, war, and division, how do we refocus on the Yamim Noraim? Aren't we all prayed out? What more can we say while tending to the wounded and grieving our deceased? The lines between personal and communal tragedy often blur.

By exploring why we recite Yizkor on Yom Kippur and the prevalent theme of shadows in our liturgy, I hope to share some comfort and chizuk as we enter these Days of Awe.

YIZKOR: LIVING IN THE SHADOWS OF DEATH

Reflecting on death teaches us about life. This is one of the reasons we recite Yizkor according to the Kol Bo. By acknowledging the inevitability of death, we are reminded that, like all those who have come before us, we, too, will pass this world as shadows. The thought of our mortality humbles us to repent. Faced with the fact that only Hashem is eternal, it begs us to ask what we will do with our limited time in this world. The image of a passing shadow symbolizing the transient nature of our existence is mentioned in U'Netane Tokef and Yizkor and is



taken from Psalm 144, “Man is like a breath; his days like a passing shadow.”

More ominous is the shadow of death, in the familiar expressions *גיא צלמות* or *חושך צלמות* in Tehillim. Though life is a passing shadow, it is still up to us to decide what kind of shadows our lives will be.

FROM SHADOW TO SHADE

Consider traveling through the blazing summer sun or as a soldier fighting in the heat of Gaza. A shadow is a mechaya. Remember the *לצ* Hashem gave Yonah in Nineveh by providing a sukkah and a plant to restore his spirits; the hope spoken in Psalm 27, that Hashem will shelter us in His sukkah at this time of year. Think of the reassuring presence a child feels in the shadow of a loving parent by their side at bedtime.

The shadow of those we love by our side brings us a great sense of security. So, even though life is a shadow, it is incumbent on us to turn the shadow into the right kind of shadow. Here, we have the opportunity to create a paradigm shift, and turn this fleeting and daunting shadow into the *לצ* of shade and shelter, as we hope Hashem provides for us.

THE SHELTER OF A FLEETING TUNE

גַּם כִּי־אֵלֶךְ בְּגֵיאַ צַלְמוֹת לֹא־אִירָא רַע כִּי־אֲתָה עִמָּדִי
(תהילים כג)

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no harm, for You are with me.

You may have heard a new melody to this verse. I am referring to the one composed by Yossi Hershkovitz Hy”d, a principal, educator, violinist, husband, and father who, serving in miluim, was one of the first to enter Gaza at the end of October. He was tragically killed on November 10.

Colonel Golan Vach shared the story of Yossi’s song at Yossi’s shiva. One night while they were stationed on guard in Gaza, he heard Yossi humming. Not recognizing the tune, Golan asked Yossi about it. Yossi answered that it was something he had just composed when he started walking into Gaza.

Golan asked to learn it, and so there they were, in war and total darkness, side by side, singing a song to ancient words composed by David HaMelech that were just as relevant now, as they sat, quite literally, in the valley of the shadow of death.

Sitting with Yossi’s children at his shiva, Golan sang the last song composed by their beloved father, teaching it to them and ensuring it would be forever remembered. With the grief still pulsing and palpable, Yossi’s family was comforted by the gift of this melody. The song offered them a bridge to something which was tragically beyond their grasp - the warm embrace and the feeling of shelter that only their father could provide.

YIZKOR: ATONEMENT FOR THE DECEASED

The Mishnah Brurah teaches that on Yom Kippur, we seek atonement for ourselves and our deceased. Rav Chaim of Volozhin elaborates that Yizkor is recited because there is a recurring verdict pronounced upon all who have passed to the next world. Even in the World to Come, the

neshama’s legacy is still in formation, and it depends on the living (our tefillah, tshuva, tzedakah). We have been seeking shelter in the memory, wisdom, and love of those we have lost, yet how moving to consider this enduring connection reciprocal, as we safeguard the souls of those we miss.

ENDURING CONNECTIONS

Just like the tree that grew from Ibn Gavirol’s grave provided shade and sustenance, our loved ones continue to influence our lives even when they are no longer physically present. These enduring connections can be cultivated by integrating their values, stories and memories into our daily lives. We remember the joy they brought, the lessons they taught, and the songs they loved. One poignant way to commemorate them is by planting trees in their names, restoring Israel’s devastated landscape, symbolizing growth and renewal.

In this time of introspection, let us transform our perspective as passing shadows to one of protective shade that we may extend to family, community and even to our departed. This is what it means to be Am Hanetzach - an eternal nation that walks in Hashem’s ways by sheltering one another, carrying one another, through our land, forever.



BY RABBANIT SONYA SCHREIBER

COMMUNITY AS A RESPONSE TO UNCERTAINTY

The ongoing war over this past year has been a stark reminder of the fragility of life, filling our days with anxiety, fear, and immeasurable loss. Lives have been tragically cut short, hostages have endured unimaginable suffering, soldiers and their families have been separated, and countless people remain displaced from their homes. These collective experiences are poignant reminders of how quickly our lives can change.

On a personal level, this year has also taught me this lesson. The sudden loss of my father has created a deep void, a new reality that I am still learning to navigate. Simultaneously, my husband's voluntary draft into the IDF – a decision we had already made together out of a sense of duty, commitment, and pride – has brought its own set of challenges and adjustments for our family. These two events, though emotionally contrasting, have significantly altered our daily lives over the last many months, and coupled with the ongoing conflict since October 7, have made me acutely aware of our vulnerability when the familiar is stripped away.

In such times of instability, it's natural to feel overwhelmed and isolated. Yet, it is precisely during these moments that the power of community shines brightest. Amid darkness, the Jewish response is to come together and create light. And there is no doubt that the response of the Shivtei community has been remarkable, surpassing expectations. The systematic outpouring of care and concern has not only provided support for those in need but has also created opportunities for all of us to offer support to others. Whether giving or receiving—or like my family, who has experienced both—it is the strength of community that has helped us



navigate the challenges of this past year, providing a sense of togetherness amid adversity.

Interestingly, for those from religious communities abroad, this level of communal support might seem “normal.” However, soon after Dani and I began working in Shivtei, we had the opportunity to participate in a year-long program for Israeli rabbinical couples. This program aimed to enhance communal skills, encourage leadership, and increase community-building here in Israel. Despite our prior experience and training, we joined as a way to continue growing together in this realm.

During one session on “community,” Rabbi Pinchas Hayman, the first rabbi of Shivtei Yisrael, was brought in to speak about the community's extensive infrastructure. He described a network of committees and support systems—covering the gamut from mommy meals to shiva help. Dani and I sat there thinking nothing of it at first, and even shared some additional, more current initiatives within the community, until one Israeli rebbetzin from Jerusalem turned and whispered, “Is all of this for real? It sounds like Gan Eden!”

While Jewish tradition places great emphasis on connection and support, the extent to which this is practiced in Shivtei goes beyond the norm.

Jews from abroad appreciate the importance of community, but the depth of infrastructure and commitment here is a direct result of our collective efforts, year after year. The results are a direct reflection of what's been invested. The dedication of leaders and laypeople alike has created a community that thrives on mutual support and involvement. While it's clear to anyone on the outside that we are blessed with a beautiful synagogue, enriching shiurim, and engaging social events, it's during times of crisis that the curtain is pulled back, revealing the incredible inner workings behind the scenes - true avodat hakodesh.

The Torah teaches that we are not meant to face life's challenges alone. The principle "Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh" (Talmud, Shavuot 39a)—"All of Israel is responsible for one another"—emphasizes that our strength is rooted in our connection and responsibility to each other. This value is what drives who we are.

As we stand on the threshold of a new year and pray for our personal blessings and successes, let us remember that our strength lies not just in our individual capabilities but in using those capabilities for the benefit of the klal. Let us fully appreciate the gifts and opportunities of our community and seek out ways to become a bigger part of it. There can be tremendous impact when we each take a moment to reflect and ask ourselves, "In what ways have I personally benefited?" and "In what small way can I contribute over this next year?" It is the combination of gratitude and contribution that make Shivtei the powerful resource that it is.

As I look back on this heavy year we've had, I am deeply grateful to everyone who has given of their time and self, shown kindness and compassion, and helped add a little more light. May we enter this new year with a renewed sense of connection, purpose, and a commitment to standing together, no matter what challenges may come our way. And may we be inscribed for a year of health, peace, and strength—individually and collectively.



Upcoming Yahrtzeit?

Come and learn in memory of your special loved ones. Everyone is welcome, men and women. From beginners with no Hebrew to advanced learners. Each week we will focus on a topic from the davening and parsha.

Each Wednesday 8.15pm, shul hall. Starting September 11th with Jeremy Kaye Part of the Shivtei Beit Midrash

A Simchat Torah we will never forget. A time to cry, A time to dance.

*"There is a time for everything under the Heavens... a time a time to mourn, and a time to dance." (קהלת) -
Simchat Torah 2024 will be that time.*



We are proud to join hundreds of communities around the world who will unite on Simchat Torah in dancing with Torah scrolls, **each carrying the name of one of the fallen of October 7.**

With Hashem's help, we will all come to Shivtei on Simchat Torah and dance with a newly robed scroll, to remember the fallen, holding our Torah high, and say:

"We will not forget what happened on Simchat Torah last year, but we are determined to dispel the darkness with light."

Please donate just 50 nis per family to help our Kehilla honor Kadoshim this Simchat Torah with a special Torah cover.

With your donation, Shivtei will receive a special Torah cover / me'il.

Embroidered onto our me'il will be the names of kedoshim who were murdered at the Nova Festival: **Lotan Abir** ה"ד and **Dor Chanan Shafir** ה"ד, who are cousins of members of our Kehilla, and **Tiferet Lapidot** ה"ד.

A separate Torah scroll cover has been donated in memory of **Yaron Chitiz** ה"ד our much loved member of our Kehilla who fell in battle.

We will take comfort knowing that so many communities around the world will also dance with these special Torah scrolls – connecting millions of Jews through this moving project, symbolizing the Jewish People's resilience, and our ability to find hope in the face of tragedy.





A Simchat Torah we can never forget. A time to cry, a time to dance.

We are proud that your donations have allowed the whole kehilla to join hundreds of communities around the world who will unite this Simchat Torah, dancing with Torah scrolls that collectively link us all with the events of October 7th, while also inspiring us to realize that "Am Yisrael Chai." "עם ישראל חי"

With Hashem's help, we will all come to Shivtei on Simchat Torah and dance with this newly robed scroll, to remember the fallen, holding our Torah high, and say that "We will not forget what happened on Simchat Torah last year, but we are determined to dispel the darkness with light."



Inscribed on our Simchat Torah Meil

הי"ד Tiferet Lapidot

Tiferet Lapidot, age 23, was murdered at the Supernova Music Festival on October 7, 2023. Tiferet had spent two years in Sherut Leumi (National Service) helping at-risk youth. When she finished her service, she flew to South Africa to volunteer with kids there whom she played with, and taught English to.

She was most recently living in Australia, but had been visiting her family in Israel for the chaggim. Tiferet loved travel and daredevil activities. She hiked the Israel trail, swam with sharks, surfed on waves and bungee jumped. She is survived by her parents and 6 siblings.



"There is a time for everything under the Heavens... a time a time to mourn, and a time to dance." (קהלת) - Simchat Torah 2024 will be that time.



Inscribed on our Simchat Torah Meil

הי"ד Lotan Abir

Lotan Abir z"l, a 24-year old American-Israeli living in Utah since completing his IDF service, was killed in the Hamas terrorist massacre at the Supernova music festival. Lotan had a presence and a simplicity which captivated just about everyone lucky enough to cross his path.



He was a constant source of light. You got the feeling that he had unearthed the secrets of life and the universe. Lotan lived his life on his own terms, without fear, and with a rare level of authenticity. Lotan was wild, and lived on the edge, yet that only added to his charm. When he smiled, you couldn't help but smile with him. He had a love for people and a genuine interest in everyone he met, whoever they were. He touched and helped people, just by being himself. People felt good when they were around him. Along with May Naim, his childhood friend, Lotan was brutally murdered at the Supernova Music Festival on October 7th, 2023.

Lotan will always be remembered by his cousins, Karen & Joe Levy

הי"ד Dor Chanan Shafir

Dor Hanan Shafir z"l was murdered by Hamas terrorists on 7.10.23, alongside his partner Savyon Chen Kipper, while trying to escape from the Psyduck music festival near the Gaza border, where they went with friends just to dance. Dor and Savyon were planning to marry in 2024. Dor was just thirty years old when he was killed.



Dor was kind-hearted, funny and humble, as well as being a strong advocate for peace and justice. Since his murder, his surviving parents and three sisters, together with friends and colleagues, have spoken of his endless kindness in all walks of life. Dor, who fought in 'Tzuk Eitan' (Operation Protective Edge) in 2014 in Gaza, suffered from PTSD following his army service. He contributed greatly to raising public awareness about the challenges faced by combat soldiers with PTSD, initiating a campaign to stop the use of fireworks during Israeli celebrations like Yom Ha'atzmaut, given the impact on so many suffering from PTSD. He was a talented and creative content creator and broadcaster, who lived by his personal motto "Live the Moment", which has become a source of some strength for his family.

Dor will always be remembered by his cousins Rob and Julia Simmons and their family.

May the Neshamot of the Kadoshim from Simchat Torah have an aliya



BY EITAN SHMUKLER

Captain Yaron Chitiz ז"ל

Yaron (or as his family and friends called him - Yaroni) was born and raised in Ra'anana. He was the youngest of five Chitiz children. He attended Yavneh Elementary School, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at Kehillat Shivtei Yisrael and later studied at Bnei Akiva Yeshiva in Ra'anana. During high school he played a big part in the Youth Minyan at Shivtei and was also a counselor at Bnei Akiva in the Ra'anana branch for Shevet "Yuval", a special group for children with disabilities.

After finishing his studies, he continued for a year and a half at the Elisha pre-military preparatory program in Neve Tzuf. His hobby was enjoying life. He loved soccer and was an avid Liverpool fan along with his brothers and father, even attending several of their games in the years before his death. He also loved playing soccer every Friday, and enjoyed a good BBQ, cold beer and hanging out with friends at the beach on Fridays.

HIS PATH IN THE IDF

Yaron enlisted in March 2020 in the Givati Brigade, Shaked Battalion. After completing his training, he was assigned early to command and became a

basic training commander for the March 2021 recruits. After completing his role, he attended the officers' course, after which he returned to be a platoon commander at the Givati Brigade training base. After 8 months in this role, he became an instructors' team commander at Bahad 1 in the "Lehav" course, where he trained two teams in the basic phase of the officers' course. In his last role, he deliberated between becoming the deputy commander of a basic training company or the deputy commander of the "Mivtzait" company of the Shaked Battalion, ultimately deciding to go to the battalion to gain operational experience.

Yaron fell in battle on December 26, 2023, in Daraj Tufah while serving as the deputy commander of the "Mivtzait" company in Shaked. He was killed in an encounter with five terrorists who infiltrated the building where his company was stationed. By being the first to engage the terrorists, he saved the rest of his soldiers from a much worse incident. His soldiers and commanders described him as always knowing how to be a tough commander with the biggest heart. He knew how to demand and push them to their limits but cared for each person under his command both in the brigade and at Bahad 1. He was a man of kindness, a true friend with a huge smile and a professional in everything he did.

יהי זכרו ברוך

ARMY BBQS



IRON SWORD VOLUNTEERING



BY CHANIE WIESENBERG

A CHAMAL IN RA'ANANA

On October 8, a friend of mine volunteered for reserve duty and saw that hundreds of soldiers who had rushed to join their units lacked essential items. As Olim, we have many friends outside of Israel who are eager to help in any way they can, so when I heard this from my friend, a chamal opened in my garage in Ra'anana immediately.

["Chamal" is a Hebrew acronym that stands for "cheder matzav l'milchama," meaning war room or, as in this case, an operation center that is set up to help with the war effort.]

With the support of generous British and American communities, we set up Amazon wish lists and collected funds to buy the soldiers what they needed.

Immediately, the Shivtei community jumped into action, and we soon had a small army of volunteers. We were introduced (through a local politician) to an incredibly generous family with a warehouse who stopped their operation to provide space for ours. At this point, the chamal left my garage and moved to the warehouse with our volunteers. We joined forces with similar operations that sprang up after that black Shabbat in October and have been working there ever since.

Donated goods from the UK, the US, India—from everywhere—arrived at Ben Gurion Airport, where volunteers met them and brought them to the chamal.

We had to get the gear to soldiers quickly, and we often worked through the night to turn around the shipments. Since October 2023, we've sent hundreds of packages of donated thermal gear, warm jackets, medical equipment, sleeping bags, tents, generators, tactical uniforms, batteries, backpacks, towels, toiletries, and more. Volunteers ran the process by getting donations,



Efrat Raelbrook, Chanie Wiesenberg, Rena Levy and Orna Pevy

purchasing, collecting from airports, packing everything ready to send, and making deliveries directly to the bases.

We also collected and delivered donated clothing, toys, and other goods to displaced citizens from the south and north of Israel.

Many volunteers, like me, were balancing a day job while volunteering. There are too many to name here, but the tireless work of some in particular made it a success: Kayla Glick, Eli Rudolph, Efrat Raelbrook, Guv Lebens, Clifford Corney, Orna Pevy, and Rena Levy all volunteered their time endlessly, as did new friends Simba and Erez Drucker, who helped source and get us through many challenges along the way.

Since May, the needs have slowed, as has the flow of goods and money. But we are still running today, led by Orna Pevy and Rena Levy.

Throughout the past year, Shivtei has been an integral part of the chamal, whether through volunteers, donations (both from the Gemach and special funds), or collecting items for soldiers. If you want to learn more, donate, or volunteer, please contact Orna Pevy or Chanie Wiesenberg via the shul office.

BY RAFI SANDLER

GRILLS OF HOPE

In the heart of Ra'anana, a remarkable initiative is quietly making a big impact. Grills of Hope, a community-driven project, is changing lives and fostering unity through the simple act of barbecuing for soldiers. Grills of Hope started with a vision of supporting our soldiers who sacrifice so much for our country. A group of us came together to organize the first BBQ event. Little did we know it would evolve into something much greater than we initially envisioned.

In terms of logistics, deciding where to go for our BBQ events involves a collaborative effort. We receive numerous requests from army units, and we carefully consider factors such as availability, the size of the unit, location, and available funds before making a decision. Volunteers from all walks of life gather to help fire up the grills and prepare delicious meals for soldiers serving on the front lines.

When it comes to sourcing our supplies, we're fortunate to have a partnership with Samuel's Catering in Ra'anana. All our supplies, including meat and other food items, are delivered to our kitchen there. This central location allows us to streamline our operations and ensure that we have everything we need for each event.

For larger units exceeding 120 people, we often pre-cook some of the meat at our kitchen. This not only saves time during the event but also allows us to adapt to any last-minute changes or adjustments. Additionally, we always bring grills to the event locations to provide that fresh BBQ feeling and enhance the overall experience for our soldiers.

So far, Grills of Hope has hosted an impressive 300 BBQs, feeding over 30,000 soldiers. Grills of Hope is more than just about food. It's about community. It's about coming together to support a common cause and make a difference in the



lives of others, and most importantly it's about spreading hope for all sides: soldiers and civilians.

As we look to the future, the mission of Grills of Hope remains clear: to bring comfort, strength, and a taste of home to our soldiers, no matter where they may be. From homemade garlic pittot to sizzling steaks, every dish is made with love and gratitude. So the next time you smell the aroma of BBQ in the air, remember the unsung heroes of Grills of Hope, who are making a difference one grill at a time.



BY DANIEL ORKIN

AMI-CHAI REFRESHMENT STATION IN MAVKI'IM

It is difficult to believe that we have been living this nightmare for almost a year, but alongside the suffering, loss and division, there are many sources of hope, pride and unity, including the support our soldiers have received from people all over the country. I would like to share the story of the Ami-Chai Refreshment Station and the incredible assistance it has received from Kehillat Shivtei Yisrael.

Since October 10, the Ami-Chai Refreshment Station has provided soup, hot meals, and sandwiches, not to mention fruit, snacks, cold drinks, tea and coffee, to soldiers serving in and around Gaza. Located behind a petrol station just a few kilometres from the Gaza border, we set up a kitchen, showers and laundry service to provide for our troops, and our main tent (now with air-conditioning) is open all day, every day.

The station is run by volunteers from all over the country who prepare meals for soldiers and arrange multiple deliveries to soldiers in and around Gaza. At the height of the fighting, we served over 2,000 portions a day.

A key decision was to serve home-cooked food (including favourites such as schnitzels, roast chicken, meatballs, rice, potatoes and couscous) on real plates and with metal cutlery so that the soldiers could feel the warm, familial embrace of Am Yisrael and escape the front line for a few moments.

The Shivtei community has played a huge role in supporting the refreshment station and in reminding the troops how much we love them. Since November, every Sunday our community has sent hundreds of delicious sandwiches, complete with handwritten messages and brachot, to troops in the south (over 15,000 in total!). In January,



when temperatures dropped dramatically, the community warmed the hearts and stomachs of the soldiers by adding a delivery of hundreds of portions of hot dinners every Wednesday afternoon (driven down and served to troops in the field by the amazing Avi and Atalya Rosenfeld). Nothing interrupted these deliveries: come Purim, holidays, Iranian rocket attacks, no matter what, Shivtei delivered, and when people didn't manage to sign up in time, they brought sandwiches anyway!

I feel privileged to have witnessed the community at its best. There are families who spent every Sunday morning preparing sandwiches together before school; Bat Mitzvah celebrations that began with making food for soldiers; people who delivered soft drinks every week - and then arranged Supersol deliveries when they were abroad or ill with Covid. One of my fondest memories occurred when handing out food at an army crossing point into Gaza. A young soldier heard our accented Hebrew and came to ask us where we were from. When I replied "Ra'anana", he asked if we went to Shivtei. I had the honour of handing him a banana delivered by his grandfather, an octogenarian in our community who has delivered over 20kg of bananas twice a week without fail for 10 months!

The Ami-Chai Refreshment Station was founded and is run by my cousin, Uriah Attias, in memory of his brother Amichai z"l, who always saw the good in people and worked tirelessly to help others. We are constantly finding ways to improve the station and make conditions a little more comfortable,

CONT BY DANIEL ORKIN

reminding our soldiers that the whole country is behind them, ready to help in any way we can. Our overheads are minimal due to the generosity of volunteers, local farmers and some local supermarkets, but we still rely on donations (also enabled by Shivtei Yisrael - <https://bit.ly/Ami-Chai>) to cover day-to-day expenses.

I would like to thank Eli Rudolph for her ever-present support and energy, Josh Rudolph for facilitating and managing donations to the station, Andy Album for his constant support and encouragement, and, most of all, to the hundreds of people from our community who have donated, cooked, volunteered, delivered and done everything possible to help our soldiers. Please G-d, you should always be the ones donating and I pray we are all able to welcome back our beloved soldiers and hostages in the very near future.



BY ELI RUDOLPH

THE DAY EVERYTHING CHANGED

About five minutes after the end of Shabbat on October 7, I received a call from a member of Shivtei Yisrael shul asking if I was ready. Until then, I had been the coordinator of the Ra'anana shul's chesed committee, which helped members during times of need, mostly through a WhatsApp group.

When I heard those words, I had no clue what lay ahead or what the following months would look like. About 20 minutes later, I got the first request from a unit in the South asking for supplies.

On October 8, we sent out at least six requests on the Shivtei chesed group, and by that night, we already received our first video from soldiers thanking us for what we had sent out that day. By October 9, my number had spread far and wide. I remember receiving a call from a soldier asking for ceramic vests and helmets. I was shocked - I didn't even know what a ceramic vest was and couldn't understand why he asked Eli Rudolph from Ra'anana for them! "I can give you socks," I replied.

The WhatsApp group grew from approximately 190 people to over 470 during the next few days and weeks. My army vocabulary has expanded since then in unimaginable ways. I quickly learned what a "chamal" was after being informed that was what Josh and I were operating from our dining room table. ["Chamal" is a Hebrew acronym that stands for "cheder matzav l'milchama," meaning war room or, as in this case, an operation center that is set up to help with the war effort.]

Here are just some of the ways people have responded to requests sent through the Shivtei Chesed group:

Helping displaced families from the south and north find accommodation with meal rotas, homeware, and appliances.



We are helping the families staying at the Prima Hotel in Ra'anana with school stationery, nappies, formula, toys, and clothing and volunteering to help the evacuees directly in many different ways.

We provide soldiers with sandwiches, hot Shabbat meals, desserts and treats, fruit and vegetables, snacks, and protein bars.

We provide soldiers with socks, underwear, thermals, plasters, batteries, and sleeping bags.

We are trying to source more unusual requests from army bases, such as laminating machines, kettles, vacuum cleaners, washing machines, and tents.

Distributing medical supplies sent from around the world or purchased with the donations received to bases and medical facilities nationwide.

People drove thousands of kilometers to deliver food and supplies to soldiers and took extras in cars and vans to hand out things to soldiers who may need what we had to offer. One volunteer drove up north (when it was still allowed), from there to the airport to pick up bags of supplies that he dropped off in Ra'anana, and then went to take another delivery way down south—all in one day.

Helping the families of parents serving in miluim (Reserves). This amazing group, set up and run by Rabbanit Etta Bendavid, alleviated the stress of single parenthood sprung upon many families with meals, babysitting, and general love and support.

CONT BY ELI RUDOLPH

Helping soldiers with their needs when they returned home for the measly hours they were granted. The Shivtei soldiers' "one-stop shop" was an invaluable resource for soldiers to come and collect everything they needed, all in one place and kindly donated by people contributing to the Shivtei war appeal.

Ladies volunteering to repair and wash soldiers' uniforms.

People volunteering their professional services to soldiers for free - hairdressers, physical therapists, and other medical professionals.

People from all over the world generously donate money administered behind the scenes by my husband Josh, who is working non-stop to ensure that the millions of shekels donated are distributed honestly to all the places in need and keeping track of every cent.

I know that, unfortunately, this look back over the past many months doesn't mark an end to our work. At the time of writing, we still do meal and sandwich rotas every week. I still get a variety of weekly requests from soldiers and we have been able to assist not only with food, but also with items such as generators and surveillance lookout drones. It is all continuing for now, and more help may be needed. But it's good to thank everyone for everything you have done so far and to pray for better times for us all very soon.



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BY NOAM MIRVIS

'SKETCHES OF RESILIENCE'

As soon as Efrat and Yossi Silberhaft managed to return from Vienna after spending Simchat Torah with Efrat's family, Yossi was immediately called up to milium to serve in Hativat Carmeli. Home alone for the next eight months with her two toddlers, Efrat started sketching as a way to cope with all of the stresses she was facing. "I found solace in sketching my feelings and emotions when Yossi was called up to the army," she relates.

Sharing her sketches on Instagram, Efrat was heartened as to how much they resonated with other people's feelings who were going through similar challenges and emotions. "I continued sketching, which gave me the strength to persevere," she says.

After a huge amount of encouragement from her employers and friends, Efrat has published her sketches in a book "Sketches of Resilience" the proceeds of which will be donated to widows and orphans of IDF reservists through the IDF Widows & Orphans Organization (IDFWO).



Efrat would like to thank the Shivtei community for all the help and support during the trying times that Yossi was in milium, "The shul has been absolutely amazing. From the kids from the community coming and keeping my children entertained, the food we received managed by Rabbanit Etta, or the Friday care bags just to make us smile, whether it was a toy for the kids or something for me, I always felt like I could lean on the community if I needed something while Yossi was away."

You can order the book here:
<https://www.sketchesofresilience.com/>

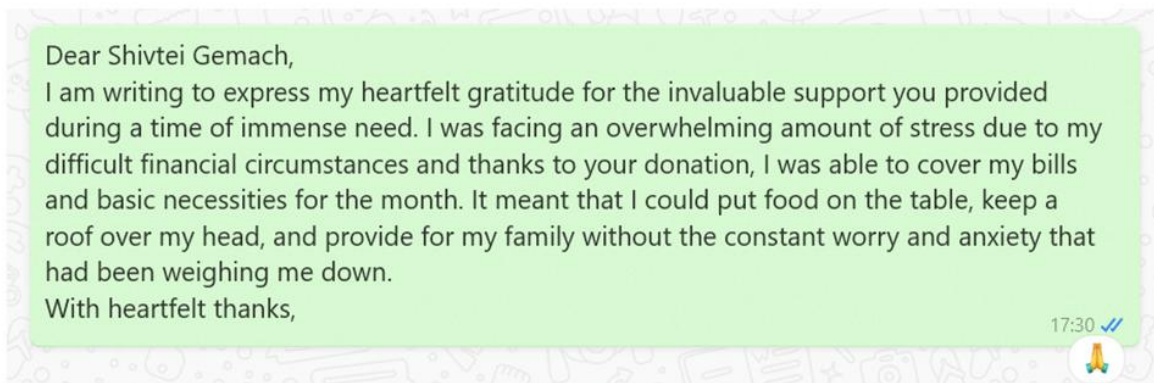


A message from the Gemach:

The Raanana Gemach by Shivtei is YOUR local charity. Ra'anana has many people in need and the Gemach is there to support them. The Gemach is made up of a group of volunteers (separate from the shul management) and supported by the shul office so every shekel donated goes to individuals in need.

From last year's donations, we were able to provide monthly food cards to over 50 families, give loans, pay off bills and purchase school books. We work closely with the city's social services (revacha), other shuls and local charities. Families rely on us every month for support. This coming year we want to do much more - build deeper partnerships with other organizations to provide further support as well as work with the schools to proactively reach out to people in need, to save them the dignity of having to call us.

Below is an example of the type of response we receive.



We need YOUR support. YOUR donation is a gift of hope and confidence. As we start the New Year, please dig deep and donate to help give a fresh start to someone in need.

To donate*

Via web: www.shivtei.com/general-donation-to-gemach | Phone: 09-7741842 |
Bank Transfer: Bank Hapoalim (bank code 12), Branch 661, Account 48012

If you know of someone in need or if you have any questions, contact Chanie 052-4753315.

Help with DIGNITY

*The gemach is an approved charity under Section 46 of the Income Tax ordinance



SCAN ME

BY MADELEINE SCHWARCZ

RAY OF LIGHT

OUR WORK DURING THE PAST YEAR

Our year usually begins during the summer vacation, where we start the process of raising funds for our Rosh hashana appeal, on our mission to feed upto 200 needy families over the High Holy days and then we slow down a little, till Pesach, when we do the same again.

However, our short respite was not to last as 7th October dealt the entire nation a massive, tragic blow.

Ray of Light immediately swung into action, finding where we could provide assistance. Harnessing the power of the people, and using our many contacts nationally and internationally, we have to date raised tens of thousands of shekels in order to purchase necessary equipment for our soldiers fighting on the front lines in the north and south.

We received requests from dozens of reservist units needing Helmets, Protective vests , Sleeping bags and Mattresses, Ruck-sacks, Medic bags, Drone bags, Portable air conditioning units and Portable generators, and more.

On the civilian front, we recognised the needs of displaced families in the North and South and began collecting and distributing clothes and toys to children in Ashkelon, equipping and setting up nursery schools for children in the North, and purchasing washing machines and drying machines for displaced families in Tiberias.

Ray of Light also assisted a wine factory in the North that was damaged in a rocket attack. We receive tens of requests a week for assistance. We try to never say no. Nothing is impossible.

None of this could be achieved if not for a team of extraordinary people near and far. So many people have been involved, either as a one-off or regularly, helping with collections, distributions, driving across and up and down the country, from Ra'anana to Otef Aza to the Golan, via Ashkelon, Sderot, Haifa, and Tveria, sometimes in one day and usually a few times a week! Making phone calls, sourcing resources, sorting clothes, sorting toys, delivering food, raising money, packing food... the list of tasks is endless.

We thank each and every person who has helped us and continues to do so. We pray for the return of our hostages, for the refuah shelma of the injured and for the safety of our soldiers, may God watch over them as they defend Israel.



Ray of Light

Registered non-profit 580746899

Shana Tova! May all your prayers of the heart be heard, written, and sealed for a year with peace, joy, brightness, and prosperity.



כתיבה וחתימה טובה

Poverty has no creed, race, or demographics
It affects local families here in Raanana and surrounding communities.

Ray of Light provides meals and groceries on Friday for the needy in Raanana

We provide Rosh Hashana and Pesach food packages for 250 families in Raanana and surrounding communities.

Our Amuta is in memory of my late husband, Raymond.

A 300 NIS Donation

provides approximately 500 NIS worth of food and vouchers for families in impoverished circumstances.

We are always very grateful for new **volunteers and donations**.

Madeleine Schwarcz 052-2488288

www.RayofLightIsrael.org Facebook : [Ray.Of.Light.il](https://www.facebook.com/Ray.Of.Light.il)

SHIVTEI KIDS ACTIVITIES



SHIVTEI KIDS

A YEAR FOR GROWTH, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY

This past year has been a time of incredible growth, fun, and learning for the Shivtei kids' community. With new families joining our shul, our children's groups have truly flourished, creating a vibrant and bright atmosphere every Shabbat. From toddlers to Kita Daled, our numbers have grown significantly, with approximately 40 children in our toddler through Aleph groups and about 30 in our Bet-Daled Shabbat morning group. We are thrilled to witness this growth and eagerly anticipate the continued expansion of our children's programs.

The year kicked off with our first-ever "Welcome Back and Good Luck for the New School Year" event. It was a huge success, with over 60 children and their families coming together to enjoy a fun-filled circus show and dinner, followed by a Kabbalat Shabbat filled with ruach! The energy and excitement were palpable, setting the tone for a year full of memorable experiences.

During the summer, we introduced a new initiative: the Early Young Families Kabbalat Shabbat Minyan. This special service was designed with our youngest members in mind, featuring a kid-friendly Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by delicious Shabbat treats and a special program for the kids during Maariv. This initiative has been warmly received, drawing many young children and their parents to shul on Friday nights, fostering a strong sense of community and connection among our young families.



Throughout the year, we celebrated each of the chagim with themed activities and entertainment that brought our families together. These events are becoming Shivtei traditions, eagerly anticipated by our children and families alike.

A highlight of our community is the special relationships that have formed between our children and their madrichim. Our dedicated madrichim play an integral role in guiding and nurturing our kids, creating a warm and supportive environment. If you know an awesome teenager who would make a great madrich or madricha, we would love to have them join our team!

Our children have also been active in giving back to the community, involving themselves in meaningful acts of chesed during times of need. From challah bakes for the chayalim to cookie-making and entertainment for our miluim families, our kids have shown a remarkable commitment to helping others. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and hope to continue fostering this spirit of kindness and community involvement in the years to come.

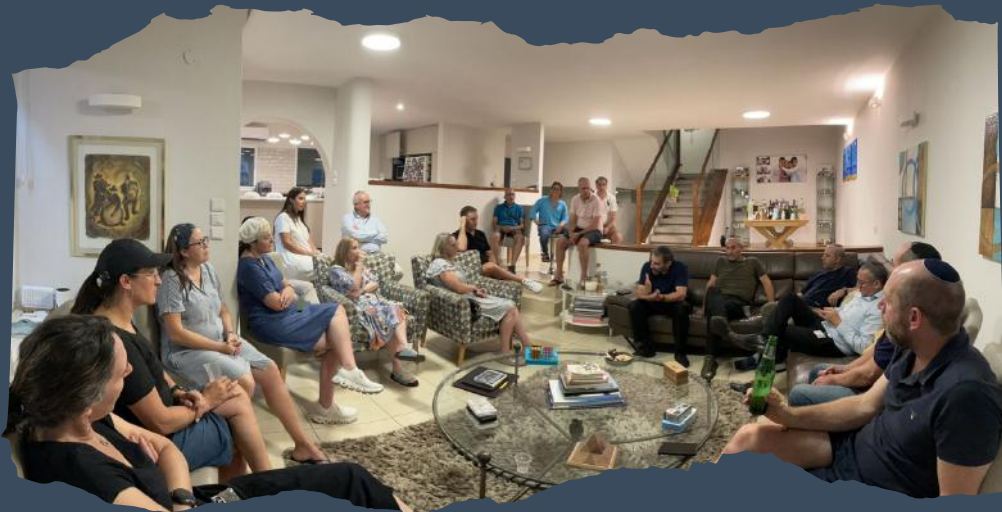
As we look forward to the future, we are excited to see our Shivtei kids' community continue to grow and thrive. We remain dedicated to providing a nurturing and enriching environment for our children, ensuring that they feel a deep connection to our shul and to each other.

Here's to another year bursting at the seams with kinderlach!

The Shivtei Kids Team
(Toddlers - Kita Daled)



PRE ROSH HASHANA LECHAIM



ANNUAL SUKKAH CRAWL



MEET THE NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CRAIG LEVY, FUNDRAISING

I was born in Sydney, Australia, in 1976. My mother was born in Belgium as her family fled from Poland. My father was from England and came out with his family at the age of three or four. I went to Moriah College, the local Jewish school, for my whole life. Prior to university, I went to Yeshivat Shiloh here in Israel for a year. After about 2-3 years of working in Australia I was headhunted by IBM Israel to come and work here and head up their CRM and strategy team. I was about 25 and made aliyah. Then six years later I met Rena, who was born in Neve Daniel here in Israel, a real Sabra. We lived in Jerusalem where we had two kids, Idan and Ari. Then in 2015 we moved to Australia because my mother was sick with cancer.

Prior to that we had been members of Shivtei for two years, having moved from Jerusalem seven years after getting married. We then spent eight years in Sydney and came back to Israel a year and a half ago with the two boys in time for Idan's bar mitzvah, but with an additional Australian princess, Leila. I am currently a senior partner at EY leading their business transformation and strategy team.

I'm so proud to be part of the Shivtei board. Shivtei is not just a shul; it is a real community that just keeps growing and growing, from strength to strength. Shivtei has given so much to me and my family and I just wanted to give back so I can help many other families in the same way.



JOSH BARTH, YOUNG FAMILIES



My name is Josh Barth and I have been living in Ra'anana, part of the incredible Shivtei community, for the past 4 years. I am married to Fleur, and we have 3 sabra children- Idan (6), Lavi (4) and Annaelle (2).

I am going to be focusing on young families this year. Continuing as Gabbai of the Family Minyan, we are going to be putting together a lot of exciting and relevant initiatives for this fast growing segment of the community. Please be in touch if you'd like to get involved!

Wishing everyone a Shana Tova U'metuka and b'sorot tovot.

My name is David Brooks and have lived in Ra'anana since making aliya in 2002. I am married to Zara and we have 5 Israeli born children - Yoni (21), Matti (19), Eliya (16), Meital (14) and Aviad (9). I am responsible for programming for the under 12s at Shivtei.

As it has taken me over 20 years to join the Shivtei committee, now I have finally taken the plunge I am excited to work with our great madrichim to help run all the various activities we put on for the Shivtei kids.

Please feel free to approach me with any suggestions, comments and feedback on how we can further develop and improve the activities we provide.

**IRIS OSTRIN, MARKETING**

Our Ra'anana journey began with a trial Shabbat at Shivtei, where we were immediately welcomed into a warm, friendly community. As I recall, Avishai and I felt an instant sense of belonging. The warmth and friendliness we experienced at Shivtei, immediately made us feel like part of the family. It was exactly what we were looking for in a community.

My husband, Avishai and I have 3 children - Matan (10), Gili (7), and Naama (5). I made aliya in 2009, and we've been at Shivtei since 2010. I'm currently serving on the board as the marketing chair.

In the coming year, we're focused on finding the best ways to keep our community informed and engaged. We want to ensure that everyone is aware of developments within the shul and has opportunities to contribute. We love Shivtei because it's the community that gave us a home when we first arrived in Ra'anana, and we've never looked back.

ANTHONY HURWITZ, SHABBAT COORDINATION

I am Anthony Hurwitz. I am married to Kaylee, and we have three beautiful children - Shari (12), Gadiella (10) and Netanel (4). We (of course without Netanel) made Aliyah 7 years ago, moved straight to Ra'anana, and immediately joined Shivtei.

My committee portfolio is that of "Shabbat Coordination", a.k.a. The Job That Noone Wants (other than being Chairman!). I will ensure that the campus runs smoothly every shabbat.

We have been very privileged and are so grateful to be part of the incredible Shivtei family, and so it is my pleasure to give back to the community that has given us so much since we moved here!

Wishing the entire community a Shana Tova U'metuka! K'tiva v'chatima tova! May we be blessed to know only happier and peaceful times 🙏



KOTEL TRIPS



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community.

Shana Tova.

Love, Shely and Barry
Cohen and Family.



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peace, joy, brightness, and prosperity.

כתיבה והתימה טובה

Judith Schwarcz

052-2488288 moogy@netvision.net.il

	<p>www.dyslexia.org.il</p>	
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YOM HA'ATZMAUT



BY JEREMY KAYE

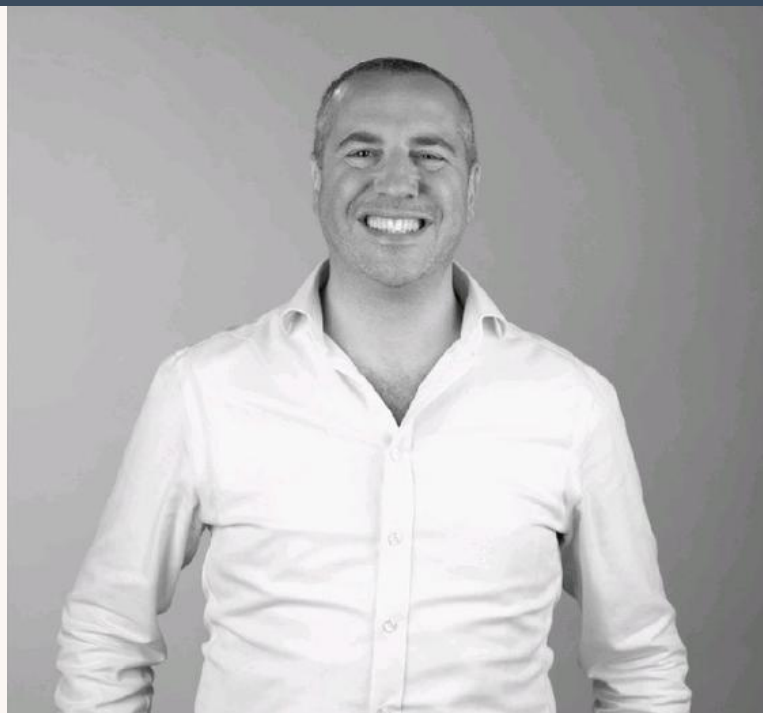
SHIVTEI YOUTH: A COMMUNITY STRONGER TOGETHER

During the early months of the war in Israel, our youth rose to the occasion, embodying resilience, unity, and an inspiring commitment to helping others. Through a series of impactful activities, guest speakers, and volunteer efforts, our young members found ways to support those in need and gained valuable insights and skills that will serve them well into the future. With huge thanks to our youth workers Raz and Tomer Locker who led our youth through these challenging times.

GUEST SPEAKER SERIES

To help our youth navigate the complexities of the situation, we organised a series of talks featuring a diverse lineup of speakers. Eli Rudolph kicked off the series with an inspiring session on how the kids could get involved in volunteer activities, emphasizing the importance of giving back during challenging times. Itai Levanon followed with his extensive army perspective on the war, offering a firsthand account of what led up to October 7. His talk was fascinating and helpful as we don't have many adults in our community that can offer this type of perspective.

Psychologist Batya Ludman addressed the critical topic of trauma management, equipping the kids with tools to cope with the emotional toll of the conflict. Her session was particularly valuable as it provided practical advice on maintaining mental health during turbulent times. We were also blessed to have been joined by Yair Beller who had recently been released from hospital after his injuries from the war. Grant Leboff provided a broader religious context, speaking about Israel's unique role in the world. His insights encouraged our young members to think about their place in the global community and the responsibilities that come with it.



‘While the guest speaker series and skill-building activities were crucial, the heart of our efforts lay in the immense amount of chesed work that our youth undertook.’

Ra'anana Mayor Chaim Broide spoke passionately about the role of community support in wartime, highlighting how our collective efforts can make a significant difference. Danna Azrieli spoke beautifully about her Jewish and Zionist values and how they underpin everything she does in running her business. Gabi Kanichowsky, footballer for Maccabi Tel Aviv and the Israel National Team, inspired the kids about his decision to retain Jewish values against the odds.

Noam Gershony, a Paralympic medalist, shared his personal story of overcoming adversity, inspiring our youth to persevere even when the odds seem insurmountable. The series concluded with a moving talk by Holocaust survivor Sara Jackson, who not only shared her harrowing experiences from the past but also recounted her ordeal on October 7.

Stand With Us explained to the kids about the power of their voices, and this was followed up with a Social Media programme with Michael Dickson, DJ Raphi Nathan, Daniel Braun, focused on the terrible plight of Ra'anana hostage Naama Levy. May she and all the hostages come home safely and quickly.

In addition to these talks, we recognized the importance of equipping our youth with practical skills. We conducted two "First Aid Under Fire" crash courses with Dror Wayne, which were incredibly well-received. These courses provided essential life-saving skills and emphasized the importance of staying prepared and calm under pressure.

YARONI CHITIZ ז"ל

Our youth were heavily impacted by the devastating loss of Yaroni Chitiz. Yaroni grew up in Shivtei just like them, and it was inspirational for them to see Rav Doron finding the courage and strength to still bring his warmth, light and energy, and raise the spirits of our children through many activities, divrei torah, and an incredible tisch and oneg.

POLAND AND YOUTH SHABBAT

Earlier on in the year we took over 130 youth to a brand new facility for the eagerly expected Youth Shabbat. The atmosphere was pumping, the learning was uplifting, and the experience was outstanding. With a phenomenal team of Rabbanit Etta, Rafi Sandler, and Chani Wiesenberg, we also led a meaningful trip to Poland for our Yud Bet youth, which was both inspirational and emotional, as well as a much needed bonding experience in the context of the war.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CHESED

While the guest speaker series and skill-building

activities were crucial, the heart of our efforts lay in the immense amount of chesed work that our youth undertook. From volunteering and packing essential supplies for those in need to helping with agricultural work, babysitting for families affected by the war, and baking for those in crisis, our youth demonstrated an incredible spirit of giving and solidarity. These activities not only provided immediate support to those in need but also fostered a sense of purpose and fulfillment among our young members. Our WhatsApp group was a constant buzz of activity, with only moments passing between a chesed request to it being answered.

To cap off our efforts, we organized a quiz night that brought the entire youth together. It was a night of fun, entertainment, and a much-needed respite from the ongoing stress.

LOOKING AHEAD

As we reflect on these activities, it's clear that our youth has played a vital role in supporting the community during a challenging period. The lessons learned during these months will have a lasting impact on our young members and our community as a whole. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and are confident that they will continue to contribute positively to our community and beyond. In the face of adversity, our youth have shown that they are not just the leaders of tomorrow, but the leaders of today. Together, we have proven that even in the darkest of times, we can find light through unity and kindness.











ספר השמות

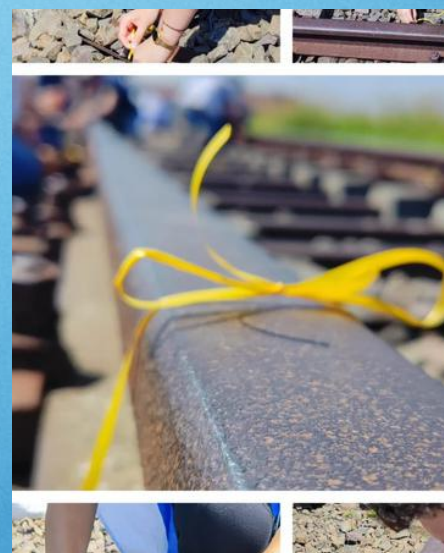
בספר הזה חקוקים שמות הנרצחים לזיכרון עולם.

THE BOOK OF NAMES

The names of the murdered are inscribed in this book as an eternal memorial.



Israeli group visiting Holocaust sites in Poland hear the news of the freed hostages, burst into dancing!



WELCOMING DUDI AND RIVKA STERN - SHIVTEI'S NEW YOUTH LEADERS

WE'RE SO EXCITED TO HAVE YOU AS OUR NEW YOUTH COUPLE. TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELVES?

We are also so excited and happy to join Shivtei and take part in this amazing community! We have two wonderful children: Yair Pinchas is 5 and started Gan Tamar, and Dvir Yitzchak is 2.5 and started Gan Dafna. We've both been involved with the youth at Shluchot and Amichai so we get the vibe of the kids!

Dudi: I grew up in Bet Shemesh. I studied in Yeshivat Hesder Maalot for six years and then taught for four years the shiur alef boys. It's been lovely to see boys from Shivtei coming through to the yeshiva. I was also part of the fundraising for the yeshiva. I finished my degree in Nursing and I'm now looking for a full-time position as a nurse in a hospital. My parents are Australian and I'm one of five. I love all things sports, especially football and running. Some of you know my brother is the Rav in Sydenham shul in South Africa.

Rivka: I grew up in Gush Katif and Holon. I am a social worker and have been working in Haifa with families in the very toughest of situations. I've taken a pause from work until after the birth of our baby b'ezrat Hashem. My father opened the Yeshivat Hesder in Holon and was the Rosh Yeshiva there for many years. My mother was also a teacher and worked as a family counsellor. My parents are moving up north (just as we've moved to Ra'anana!) to be a Ram in Yeshivat Ma'alot.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO BE THE NEW YOUTH WORKERS?

We were looking for shlichut in our lives. Working with youth is amazing because on the one hand



they are mature and know what they want but on the other hand they are open to moving forward and working out who they want to be. It is an important value for us as a couple to combine working together with shlichut so this job really suited us perfectly.

DUDI, AS WE WRITE THIS YOU ARE COMPLETING A MONTH'S MILUIM IN GAZA. WHICH UNIT ARE YOU IN AND WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?

I'm a mefaked in Handasa Kravit (Combat Engineering) and currently based in Gaza. When you see on the news that tunnels or other terrorist infrastructure are being blown up and destroyed, that is our unit. There is a huge need for what we are doing right now.

RIVKA, HOW HAS THE MOVE BEEN FROM HAIFA TO RA'ANANA? WHAT ARE YOU ENJOYING ABOUT RA'ANANA SO FAR?

It is not an easy thing to leave work, friends, your children's friends and everything you know, and move to a new place. But b"h we are so happy about the move and we are really feeling a big warm hug from the community. We are in a lovely apartment with space for our children and to host the youth in our home. Ra'anana has so many parks and green spaces for Yair and Dvir and that has made things so much easier especially when Dudi is in miluim.

WE KNOW YOU HAVE ONLY JUST STARTED, BUT WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE YOUTH THAT YOU'VE MET?

The youth are so warm and loving, and are totally embracing us and welcoming us and supporting us. They're asking us all the time if we are ok and offering help. We've already done a few meet ups with the older youth and understood two things. Firstly, they love Shivtei and it's a major part of their lives. Secondly, they want to learn and grow. They're the best!

WHAT ARE YOUR WISHES FOR THE YOUTH FOR THE COMING YEAR?

Our aspiration for this year is that we and the youth will take a big step forward, in Avodat Hashem, in our values, and in loving Am Yisrael. We pray to Hashem that we will be good role models and educators for these precious youth.

Mazel Tov to our Main Shul Chatanim - Alon Ronen and Dudy Jacobs



Wishing all our family, friends and Shivtei community members a shana tova u'metuka.
Martin & Glenda Ellis

BEIN HAMEITZARIM: A PRAYER FROM THE DEPTHS

I had the privilege to lead a group of 35 twelfth-graders to Poland from our community in Ra'anana in June 2024. Many of the participants' ancestors, including my own, were murdered in the Shoah. With October 7th casting its dark shadow on our journey, we stood by remnants of hell in Treblinka, Majdanek and Auschwitz where countless – literally countless – bodies of our people were violated, mutilated and viciously obliterated from this world.

On Friday, June 8th, we stood in Zbylitowska Gora (near Tarnow), often referred to as the Children's Forest because of the mass graves of children who were murdered, Hashem Yerachem. There, I invited the students to witness me in an intimate moment of conversation with Hashem.

Here is what I said:

Hashem,

We've come back to this hell to honor the souls of our people who were murdered by virtue of belonging to Your chosen people. We've returned to express our commitment to our nation, spanning the generations. We are here to witness the evil and the carnage perpetrated by human beings – Your creations. And we are here to try to seek resilience, some reassurance, that may strengthen us and carry forward.

God, with respect and with much anger, I call out to You now. I speak on behalf of all who are angry and hurt and feel abandoned by You. And I know You can handle it.

Many – including people among Your nation – deny your existence. They did then. They do now. If there is a God, they say, why would God allow these horrible man-inflicted tragedies. And people among other nations add, why would the God of

the Jews let this happen to His “chosen people”? Is this what You intended, God? For people to step away from You? To question Your existence? To ignore Your law? To ignore Your vision for:

דביום ההוא יהיה ה' אחד ושמו אחד

For YOUR sake, God, You should save us. For YOUR sake.

I don't claim to know and I know we will never know Your ways. But I'm here to seek You out. So that You seek us out from this hell. Remind us that You can both hear and answer us.

Is this the BLESSING that you bestowed on Yaakov with his new name YISRAEL? That he – that WE will always STRUGGLE with You; with people?

Or that we will prevail only by demanding blessings in times of struggle? If so, we demand a blessing from You. To save our people. To give our soldiers strength. To return our hostages whole and healthy. To save our people on the Land you promised.

Shema Yisrael, Hashem! Listen to Your people, who will always and forever struggle with You, Hashem. Listen to us declare Your Oneness.

These are the words I sing to MY children, when I lie down with them at night...

I say these words to them in the hopes that those words protect them; remind them that You are close, God. That You are close to all the descendents of Avraham, Yitzhak, Ya'akov, Sarah, Rivka, Rachel and Leah. I ask You to watch over my children that I surrender to Your control in their most vulnerable hours.

Hashem; Judge; Abba [father]; Melech [king], Shechina, Shakai, Elokim:

Who put THESE children to sleep, the night they were brutally laid to rest?

Who covered them?

Who whispered in their ears to protect them when they were covered in dirt and blood?!

CONT BY RABBANIT ETTA BENDAVID

I remind you, God, but I don't need to. You don't forget. You remember everything.

And we will survive. Because we survive, again and again, the infliction of suffering on Your people. You know how I know this? Because of the answer You gave to Avraham when he asked You, "How will I know, God, that You will keep Your promise – to protect my children and descendants and give us this land when I don't even have one child!?" You responded by sayin, You'll know because Avraham's descendents will first suffer in a land that is not theirs. It will be a long road ahead. And it will not be free from suffering and affliction.

That was Your covenant with Avraham.

Is this some sort of bizarre fate, God? That suffering and blessing coincide in our BRIT; our covenant? Is THIS what You meant?!

I'm calling you out, Hashem. To fulfill YOUR covenant.

And I hope You are crying with us.

And I will forever continue to cry to You and sing to You.

To demand Your blessings, Your gaze and Your answers.

For good. For Your people.

For Your sake.

Amen.

<p>Extremely English</p> <p>Private and Group English Lessons</p>	<p>Wishing the Shivtei community and all my students and their families a Happy and Peaceful New Year.</p> <p>Over 20 years experience. Conveniently located in Ra'anana.</p>
	
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Shari 0544676991

BY ANDI SAITOWIZ

WHERE DOES STRENGTH REALLY COME FROM?

I wish I knew the precise answer to this question so that I could share the secret sauce with you right now – especially now, in these unprecedentedly difficult days - and you could have a lifetime supply of full access to all the strength you'll ever need to achieve whatever it is that you really want. (Even the deeply challenging stuff and the tremendously scary stuff. All of it.) I don't.

But I do know this:

Strength is a personal measurement for a truly unique subjective experience. It's entirely up to you to decide what strong means for you.

I do know this:

Strength comes from doing hard things.

It comes from showing up despite the pain or fear and going through the struggle, the endurance and then building on that, to keep going forwards and upwards.

Strength comes from taking the time to notice and acknowledge what you have managed to do until now. So much of the time, we go through things without realizing what massive effort something took and we minimize the entire experience because we only focus on the end result and not the process.

Strength comes from paying close attention to detail and to the small and significant steps and wins and incremental gains along the way.

Strength comes from tracking progress and celebrating it one tiny tiny bit at a time.

Strength comes from within - from moments of activating your highest faith and belief. Knowing why you do what you do, even when it's not easy.



Strength comes from aligning with your core values and living with integrity even when no one is watching and you aren't in the mood.

When we connect to what truly matters to us, we are stronger.

When we believe there is a bigger plan and are hopeful about an outcome, we feel stronger. Even if we don't know why.

Strength comes from without; by surrounding ourselves with people who lift us up and see our worth, even when we sometimes forget. It comes from choosing to envelope yourself with kindness, inspiration, motivation and gratitude. It comes from selecting role models and learning from them, it comes from seeing ourselves through others eyes - especially those who see our greatness and light when all we see is our flaws, weaknesses and shortcomings of darkness.

Strength comes from grabbing lessons and blessings, often dressed up as really awful mistakes and painful failures. Strength comes from collecting moments you are genuinely proud of and taking the time to truly recognize these events for what they are and what they enabled you to accomplish, don't overlook them. You get to use these strengths in countless ways and in other areas of your life as much as you want to.

CONT BY ANDI SAITOWIZ

Strength comes from knowing yourself.

As you begin to discover and unmask more of you, you get to make choices that honor more of you and you get to live your purpose and be more of who you really are. When we know better, we do better.

The strongest people I know have had insurmountable trials.

They know what to say yes to and how to say no.

They know how to be proud of themselves with humility and honesty.

They know how to pick their circles wisely and accept help, compliments and advice.

The strongest people I know cry a lot and feel everything.

The strongest people I know are the kindest.

The strongest people I know have wells of inner resources that are invisible to the naked eye.

The strongest people I know can say sorry, and forgive others.

The strongest people I know can forgive themselves.

The strongest people I know fall down hard, and slowly with every ounce of courage, bravery and might, find a way to get back up again - battered, bruised and aching.

The strongest people I know have incredible hearts that expand wider with each hurdle.

The strongest people I know have endured so much and yet still find their smile that lights up the world for others.

The strongest people I know teach me every single day how to try and be just a little bit stronger myself.



Kudos and Thanks!



R. Danny Ginsbourg raised 50,000 NIS for Shivtei's Soldiers' Fund from near and far. He offered his new sefer of Divrei Torah on each Parasha and Moed for free with donations to the fund. Yasher Koach!

Rabbi Lapin added: "The ability to weave countless sources into an integrated, compelling narrative is just wonderful"

Copies are still available as gifts with donations to the Shivtei Soldiers' Fund & make a great Yomim Noraim gift

WOMEN'S SHAVUOT FLOWER ARRANGING



WOMEN'S EVENTS



WOMEN'S HALLEL



BY GINA JUNGER

ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE

The motto "One for all and all for one" is used by "The Three Musketeers" in the Alexander Dumas novel. It means that all the members of the group support each of the individual members and the individual members pledge to support the group. It is a message of solidarity and unity. In Judaism, (Talmud Shevuot 39a) we express a similar idea with the phrase, כל ישראל ערבים זה בזה "all of Israel are responsible for each other."

What does it mean to be responsible for each other? The Gemarah in Shevuot explains, if one Jew sees another Jew about to sin, he has an obligation to step in and correct him. From the perspective of the sages we cannot simply step back and say "I'm not getting involved. It's his life." We cannot turn our backs on others. This explains why during our "Vidui" prayers all the sins listed are in the plural, "Ashamnu – WE have trespassed Bagadnu- WE have betrayed (God and man)... While each of us as individuals may not have committed these specific sins, as a community we have. In addition the "Al Chet" prayer where we gently beat our chests while we enumerate a long list of sins begins each line with "For the sin which WE have committed before You..." This list is meant to be said by the entire congregation, even by those individuals who feel that they themselves have not been guilty of the listed sins. Yes, I personally may not have committed that specific sin but based on the principle that all Jews are responsible for one another, when one Jew sins, it is as though we have all sinned. Perhaps I could have helped my fellow man and didn't. There is something powerful about saying this confession in the plural. I am part of a community – the Jewish community. When one Jew commits a sin, the entire community is diminished. And I am also part of a wider circle – the human community, so the sins of other people in the country or the world become my problem as well.



Rabbi Jonathan Sacks in his Seven Principles for Maintaining Jewish Dialogue writes: Remember that the ultimate basis of Jewish peoplehood is "All Jews are responsible for one another". We may not agree on anything, but we remain a single extended family. If you disagree with a friend, tomorrow he or she may no longer be your friend. But if you disagree with a family member, tomorrow he or she is still part of your family. Being a family is what keeps us together. We don't need to agree with each other, but we do need to care about each other.

Since the terrible attacks on Simchat Torah (Oct. 7) we have seen this principle stronger than ever. People from different parts of the country coming to help the farmers in the south and the citizens of the north. We have cried together and celebrated together realizing how much we care about each other and recognizing that we are indeed family. In the inspiring speech delivered by Menahem Kalmanson at the Israel Prize award ceremony on Yom Haatzmaut he said, "We did not ask ourselves why we are doing this, settlers going out to save secular kibbutzniks. As my brother Itiel said, 'When you know your brother is in danger you don't really have a choice. אֶת אַחֵי אֲנֹכִי מְבַקֵּשׁ 'I seek my brothers'." Kalmanson concluded by declaring: "We are our brother's keeper."

THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Given an early deadline, I'm writing this message a few months before you'll see it. I'm sitting on an El Al flight after spending ten days in New York with our children and their delicious six- and two-year-old girls.

While I waited for the war to worsen (as the situation always seems to do when I'm away), I reminded myself of the importance of being in the "here and now". When involved in disaster management, my approach is to prepare for the worst, but hope for the best. The war will end, and the sun will come up tomorrow. Yes, in this very moment, no matter how bad things may "seem", (and we all have a long list we could insert here), we are, and will be for the most part, at the very least "okay" if not "good". Our job is to put everything in perspective while both noting and appreciating just how okay we really are, right now. The past year has not been "all bad" and in fact there has been much that has been good. It is this which I would like to address today as we prepare spiritually to focus our davening during the Yomim Noraim. As we head towards a full year of war, much has actually changed for the better, and our job is to notice it, and to do so with amazement.

"Radical amazement", a concept first discussed by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel in 1951, describes the concept of slowing down and looking at the world with wonder. It is the curious wonderment of a two-year-old toddler who can watch with great interest as an insect slowly carries his food back to his home, an adult who notices the perfect heart shape formed in the foam of her cup of latte, or the appreciation of the gifts that nature offers us as we experience the intricate beauty of a flower or the height of a tree from afar. These valuable resources are all around us and have the potential to both excite and bring our nervous system some much-needed calm.



Imagine how differently we might interact with our world if we looked up from our cellphones and instead looked outward at our surroundings as if we were given the gift of sight or hearing for the first time. We might just experience nature, light and the world with a sense of awe. If this interaction were to have taken place on and since October 7, 2023, we might see people from all walks of life helping each other, in ways both big and small. We might appreciate that a force greater than ourselves simply enveloped us and held us. It is this that enabled our soldiers – both active and those in the reserves to burst forth in an attempt to protect both this precious land of ours and its citizens. We would see children of all ages, and their parents, as amazing givers, assisting selflessly in whatever way possible, in every aspect of helping our home front. We would appreciate all those that stepped in without hesitation to take on every task from cooking, cleaning, babysitting, procuring supplies, driving to the far reaches of the country and so much more. We would experience people caring for others in ways we never thought possible and with such love, warmth and energy. How can we not help but be radically amazed and full of gratitude as we embrace the concept of coming together to win a war like never before. The flags, the signs, the singing, the learning, the strength – are phenomenal.

Martin E.P. Seligman, the granddaddy of positive psychology, talks of transforming helplessness into learned optimism and happiness. Helplessness and a sense of being overwhelmed are feelings most of us have experienced in abundance in the past year. Anxiety and depression are at an all-time high. How can they not be when we are fighting for our very existence? Hostages remain in captivity; so many people have been forced from their homes; brave soldiers including from our own community have been injured and killed, and while our soldiers defend us, we their families miss and worry about them at home. While it is easy to reiterate all that has happened “to us” in the past year, focusing on the past and getting stuck in it will not move us forward. Yes, much has happened to us, but the secret to not feeling overwhelmed is in learning to take back our sense of control by not feeling “done to”. Rather we can and should feel empowered by all that we can do and have done in our attempt to cope and move forward. We are indeed resilient.

While we cannot be in control of everything and we benefit by letting go of those things that are not within our control, Seligman’s writing is a much-needed reminder as to just how much we can control should we choose to. We have the ability to be the person we want to be.

I believe in miracles. Giving birth is just one such miracle that when we stop to think about its complexity, we have much to be grateful for. So too, in this war, there have been many miracles. Can you see how we have lived, loved, learned and laughed together? In these very challenging times, we too may not have taken the time we needed to notice all the gifts bestowed upon us.

I like to think that we can continue to learn and be there for each other. Now more than ever, we need to do what’s right while simultaneously looking after ourselves. Here are just a few ways that we can do this.

Nourish your physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. Strive to achieve a sense of balance in all areas of your life.

Reach out to others. Socialize, invite others for meals, offer to drive a person without a car to an appointment, pick up groceries, and visit those who are alone. Continue with our community’s chesed projects.

Examine your behavior. In what ways are you acting as well as you’d like and in what ways can you improve? How do you treat others; do you take their needs into account? Do you act as if Hashem is looking over your shoulder and if so, would He be happy with your thoughts, actions and behaviors?

The war has taught us to be more grateful for all that we have and for those things that we now see differently. The more amazement and positivity you look for, the deeper will be your appreciation in the world around you. The more united we are in fighting our enemy, the more “good” we will ultimately create.

Remind yourself why you made aliyah and whatever your dream is, find a way to support it. While we owe it to ourselves to acknowledge the pain and sadness after all that we have endured, as I waited in the departure lounge for our return flight to Israel, I felt a sense of calm as the boarding area began to fill with Israelis. I breathed a sigh as we landed, and as I looked out, I thought, there is simply no place like home, and no place I would rather be.

Wishing you and your family a Shana Tova filled with all that you would wish for yourself and your loved ones.



קהילת שבטי ישראל
 KEHILLAT SHIVTEI YISRAEL
 ע"ש חיים וחייה מובשובסקי
 In Memory of Chaim & Chaja Mowszowski

Shivtei Sundays 2024-5

Tiyulim in English



You made Aliya. Enjoy it!

Sep 15	Golan - Hamat Gader and Susita	Travel with us for an unforgettable adventure on the Golan Heights! Explore this not accessible ancient city of Susita, revealing its archaeological wonders and magnificent views over the Kinneret.
Oct 13	Latrun and Shaar HaGay	Visit the recently opened museums of the Jewish Soldier in WWII and Latrun and the Chan Museum at Shaar HaGay. Feel as if you were a soldier carrying supplies to Jerusalem in 1947 or a Jewish fighter in Europe.
Nov 10	Rishon Letzion and Mikve Yisrael	Rewind to the late 19 th century and learn about the first aliyot by Shomrei Shabbat that insisted on tilling the land with their own hands.
Dec 15	Tel Shiloh	Walk through 3,500 years of history, where the Mishkan stood for 370 years. See this past season's archaeological finds, immersive tours, and breathtaking views. Uncover the roots of faith in this captivating site, where history and spirituality converge.
Jan 12	Jerash, Jordan	Depart early for a day tour to Jordan that will take us up the green Gilead hills to one of the most preserved Roman cities in this region. Visit standing temples to Zeus and to Artemis and see what the Temple in Jerusalem may have looked like.

For additional information contact David Fensterheim at 0546775410.

TOURS LED BY DAVID FENSTERHEIM



NAAMA LEVY

BY NOAM MIRVIS

At the time of writing there are still 101 hostages being held in Gaza, including 20-year-old Naama Levy who was taken from Kibbutz Nahal Oz on the horrific morning of October 7. Naama's story has resonated very deeply with our community as she and her family are neighbors of ours at Kehilat Shivtei Yisrael.

At the end of November, over 100 of our youth attended an extremely moving and unforgettable event in the shul hall where they had the privilege to hear all about Naama from her mother Dr. Ayelet Levy Shachar and a number of Naama's friends.

Naama was born in Israel and grew up in India, before settling in Ra'anana. She graduated high school with a focus on diplomacy and and was raised with strong values of tolerance, acceptance, equality, freedom, and social justice.

From a young age, Naama took part in the "Hands of Peace" program, which connects young Americans, Israelis, and Palestinians to foster leadership, understanding, and the pursuit of peace as a means of driving social and global change.

Naama is an extremely talented triathlete who has always been compassionate and mindful of others. She has consistently supported those who are different or less fortunate. She volunteered at a kindergarten for the children of foreign workers (asylum seekers) and is an alumnus of a youth movement that unites children from various sectors of Israeli society.

Our tefillot are fully with Naama and all the other remaining hostages for their immediate release and we are praying for the day when we can בע"ה welcome Naama back to Ra'anana.



Photo Credit: The Daily Mail

Happy New Year
from the Crowne
Family



HONORING OUR CHAYALIM



Miluimnikim



Azi Guth and Boaz Klahr



Rav Dani

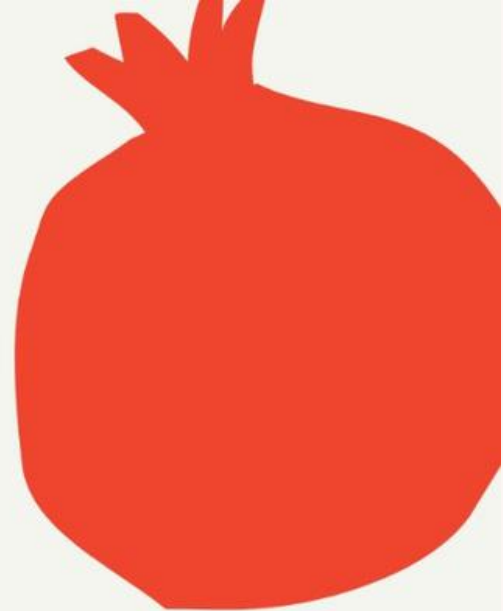


Yair Flax



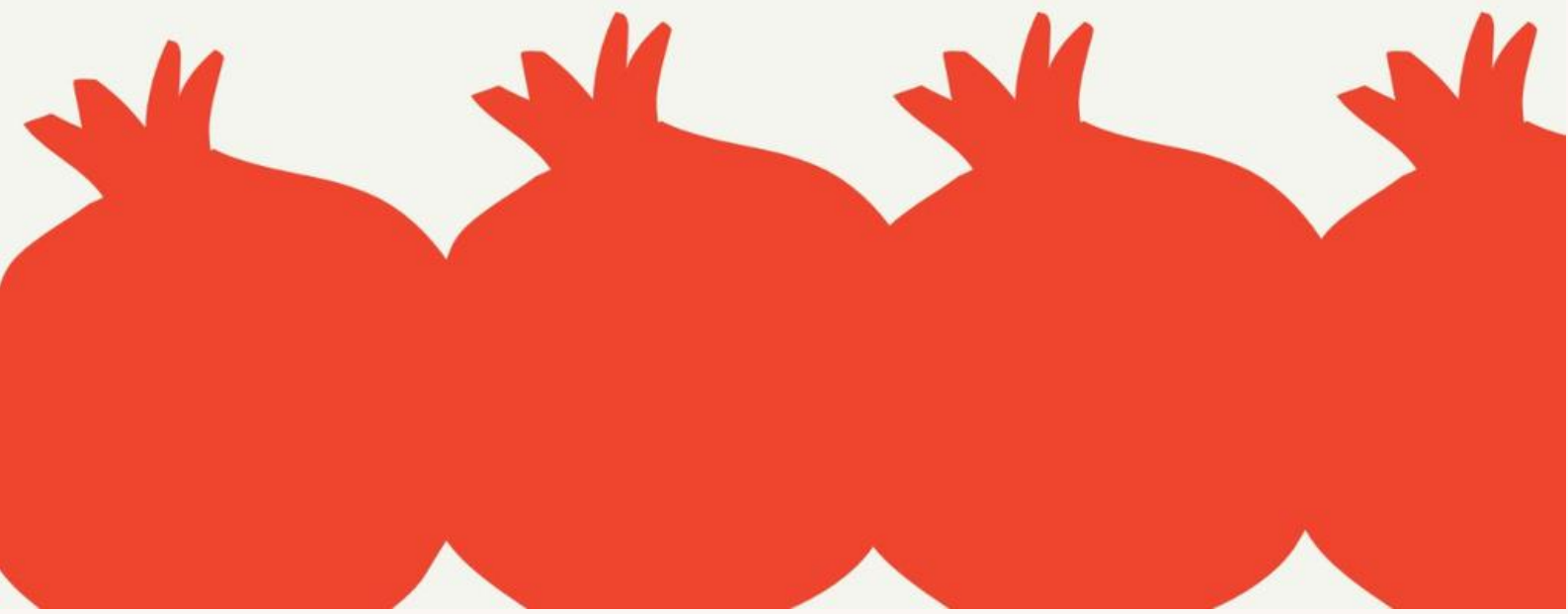
Shaun, Agam & Skye Isaacson

SHANA
TOVAH



WISHING THE COMMUNITY
A HAPPY AND HEALTHY
NEW YEAR.

Saven, Robby, Eden, Gidi,
Jed and Jojo Hilkowitz



STARTING SEPTEMBER 4TH



*Insightful Torah
Learning for Everyone*

SHIVTEI BEIT MIDRASH

5785
תשפ"ה

WEDNESDAYS 20:15-21:15

Followed by Maariv

**Shalom Bayit:
Building Better Relationships**
Rabbi Bendauid

**Gratitude as a Way of Life -
Hilchot Brachot**

Rav Yitzchak Steinberg

**Interpersonal Conduct-
Mitzvot Bein Adam Lechaveiro**
Gina Junger

**Comparative Jewish and
Christian Theology**

Harry Amdurer

**The Golden Calf in Text,
Thought and Custom**
Rabbi Craig Kacev

The Parasha Chabura
Deborah Dickson

About our Beit Midrash

- Esteemed learning program
- Open to the whole community
- Choose a different session each week, or complete a whole year of your favorite session!
- Chevruta option
- Light refreshments provided
- Time for yourselves
- Enrich your week with more Torah with your community

Our Teachers



RABBI EITAN BENDAUID
Rabbi of Kehillat Shivtei Yisrael



RAV YITZCHAK STEINBERG
Rosh Kollel Eretz Chemda, Ra'anana



GINA JUNGER
*Professional Jewish Educator
Teacher at Matan*



RABBI CRAIG KACEV
Director of Education, Pincus Fund

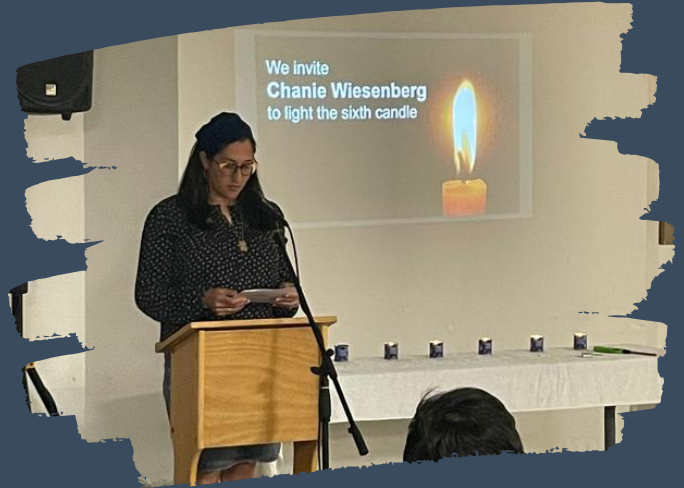


DEBORAH DICKSON
*Creator of LoveLoveChallah,
Parsha thoughts*



HARRY AMDURER
*Forensic accountant
Torah teacher in Ra'anana*


YOM HASHOAH



ZIKARON BASALON




As a child, Sara Jackson survived the Nazi Holocaust. On October 7th, she sheltered 4 people in her home on Kibbutz Sa'ad, who were saved from the brutal Hamas atrocities. Come and listen to this brave woman's remarkable story. Sara will be speaking mainly in Hebrew.



Nicky, Colin Schachat
& family wish the
Shivtei Community
a Shana Tova &
Ketiva Vechatima Tova

We pray for the return of
the hostages and peace in
מדינת ישראל



BAR & BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM



GUEST SPEAKERS



GUEST SPEAKERS & SCHOLARS IN RESIDENCE 5784

This past year turned out to be one of the more diverse ones in terms of guest speakers and scholars in residence.

Following the tragic events of October 7, the first event we hosted was an online discussion between Rav Bendavid and Rabbi Shlomo Brody discussing the latter's book on the ethics of war. This focused on the expectations of Jewish soldiers during wartime and changes to the battlefield today versus Biblical times.

A short while later we heard a fiery address from Rabbi Shmuel Boteach on a Shabbat morning to a packed house asking where God was during that terrible day.



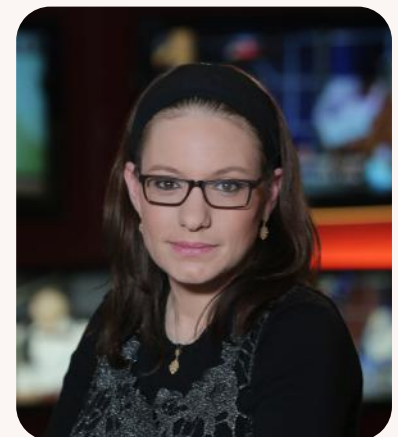
Just before Pesach, Shivtei was delighted to welcome one of the most well known teachers of Torah throughout the English speaking world, Rabbi Shalom Rosner. Rabbi Rosner gave us some memorable ideas for Seder night as well sharing his experiences of how he became a teacher and a Rabbi and how to create a Dvar Torah for all occasions.

A few weeks later, we were privileged to host Rabbi Jonathan Ziring for Shabbat. An expert in monetary halacha, Rabbi Ziring has also recently written a book about halacha and Artificial Intelligence. He gave a shiur about friendship in halacha and how this is affected by smartphones as well as discussing the implications of AI.



That same Shabbat, a very packed shul heard from one of the most well known religious journalists in Israel, Sivan Rahav Meir. Telling stories of her activities around the country and in the diaspora during the war, she also told us her own story of how she became religious having grown up in a secular family in Ramat Hasharon.

Shivtei was also privileged to hear two of the leading female Torah scholars in Israel today. Rabbanit Dr Michal Tichochinsky is a specialist in halacha and spoke about the virtues and values of Eretz Yisrael in honour of Yom Ha'atzmaut, and Rabbanit Michelle Farber who has become famous for her Daf Yomi shiur explained a difficult aggadic Talmudic passage.



One of the regular visitors to Shivtei over the years has been Rabbi Menachem Leibtag from the Gush. One of the finest and most original teachers of Tanach in the country, he returned as a scholar in residence and talked about the role prayer plays in replacing the sacrifices of the Beit Hamikdash and another regular presence throughout the year, Rabbi David Lapin, he has given a number of the Shabbat morning post kiddush shiurim. Blending his deep knowledge of Jewish sources with his own personal experiences, he presented his perspective on different parts of the calendar and how we should relate to it under the circumstances that the nation finds itself in.



myisrael.

HELP TALIA HEAL

13-year old Talia was evacuated suddenly from her beautiful and peaceful home in the North of Israel last October and transported to a hotel in Jerusalem for an indefinite period. Talia is struggling with her new life: the uncertainty of the future, the lack of space and privacy, the noises of the city. She now suffers with anxiety, is triggered by loud noises that remind her of the missiles from Lebanon and has frequent nightmares.

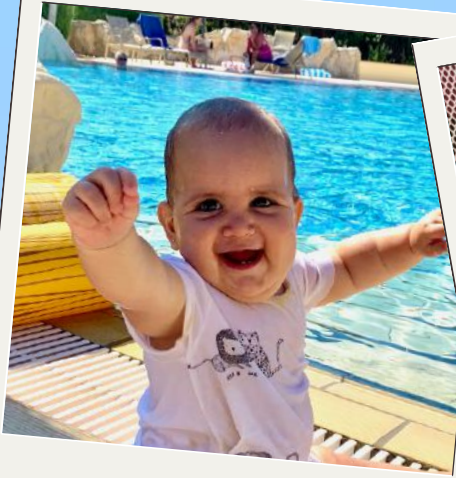
Donate



Please help Talia and other children and adults like her, to work through their trauma and build a brighter future.

myisraelcharity.org/traumasupport

NEWEST SHIVTEI MEMBERS



Ayala Daskal
daughter of Neil & Shira



Nadav Dimant
daughter of Avigayil & Ariel



Tahlia Marcus
daughter of Dara & Gavin



Akiva Emanuel Gross
son of Juliet & Ben



Ariella Katia Silverstein
daughter of Estee & Justin



Eden Esther Katzor
daughter of Elana & Yochai



Lia Lavan
daughter of Shira & Ilan



Ashira Esther Fachler
daughter of Isabella & Alexander



Amitai Rosner
son of Hannah & Barak

SIMCHAS & FAMILY



The Bendavids



The Whole Ludman Family



The Alters



The Jacks Family



The Rudolchs



The Lebens



The Saitowitzs



SIMCHAS & FAMILY



The Rosenzweig Family



The Zarnaby Family



The Medevoy Family



The Krugers



The Grausz Family



The Horowitzs



The Pomsons

StandWithUs

FACES OF OCTOBER 7TH

EXHIBITION AND REFLECTION SPACE:
ONE YEAR ON

YOU ARE INVITED TO REFLECT AND REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 – OCTOBER 30, 2024

STANDWITHUS KATZ EDUCATION CENTER, 26 KING DAVID STREET, JERUSALEM



TICKETS AND INFORMATION

standwithus.com/facesofoctober7

A stunningly-rendered
exhibition featuring:

- A unique art display of the victims of October 7
- Audio and video creating an immersive environment to pay respects to those lost
- Informative interactive touchscreen display
- Opportunity to leave a memorial message

The portraits and art are created by celebrated Israeli graffiti artist **Benzi Brofman**, who survived the Nova Festival, and it documents and perpetuates the memory of the hostages, the murdered, and IDF fallen soldiers. Benzi has become known as "Israeli 'Banksy'" with powerful art installations across Europe, Israel and other locations. The portraits were created with the permission of and in collaboration with the families.



To Rabbi Bendavid and Rabbanit Etta

Thank you so much for always being there for us. Your kindness and support don't go unnoticed, and they mean the world to us!

**THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS
MAGAZINE POSSIBLE**

**OUR AUTHORS AND ADVERTISERS
FAMILIES PROVIDING PHOTOS
NOAM MIRVIS
IRIS OSTRIN MARIAN LEBOR
BARBARA GRANT FRANKLIN KAYE
ANDY ALBUM
SHIVTEI'S OFFICE TEAM
CORONA PRINTING
DAN COHEN**



TO THE ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES



WE SALUTE YOU



**PRAYING FOR THE
SAFE RETURN OF**



**ALL OUR HOSTAGES
AND SOLDIERS**

PAID FOR BY ANONYMOUS

**BRING THEM
HOME NOW!**

pearldental

מרפאת שיניים ●●●

Wishing the Shivtei Yisrael
community a happy,
healthy and yes, even
a sweet New Year!



Family and Cosmetic Dentistry

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**Wishing the Shivtei
community a very happy
healthy and safe New Year**