

COMMUNITY NEWS

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coffee morning to recruit more volunteers. The ladies who came were interested to hear about the important work Ezer Leyoldos does in the community, offering vital support services to children and families. Volunteers befriend families, assisting mothers to care for their young children at a time of *simchah* or crisis. Recently the *kehillah* has seen an increase in the number of twins born, *baruch Hashem*, and Ezer Leyoldos volunteers find this work to be particularly rewarding.

Volunteers are a valued part of the team, and the organisation would be very happy to hear from ladies who were not able to attend the coffee morning but might like to volunteer.

Golders Green

Etz Chaim Holds Inspiring Evening

Last week's annual Ladies' Evening in support of Etz Chaim Yeshiva Golders Green was a tremendous success. Ladies thronged from Stamford Hill and Edgware to the Beis Yaakov Grammar School Hall in Hendon, to see the talents drawn exclusively from the local community.

The function commenced with a fantastic display of various arts and crafts, jewellery making and demonstrations of culinary skills. Perele Hirsch mesmerized the audience with her cake decorating and professional icing skills.

Mr. M. Wulwick, a member of the *beis medrash* for over 20 years, introduced the guest speaker, Rabbi Mendy Chissick. Mr. Wulwick's words added to the spiritual atmosphere.

Rabbi Chissick inspired the ladies with his *divrei Torah*. He spoke about showing sensitivity toward the feelings of others, emphasising the vital importance of attaching oneself to an Etz HaChaim.

A delicious buffet supper was served, followed by musical entertainment. "The Poor Cobbler," a *mashal* from the Chofetz Chaim, was beautifully sung and acted in rhyme, organised by Dobra Rosenthal. A sailors' dance produced by Shani Kraus and Shoshana Van Praagh completed the programme. The event concluded with a grand raffle.

In addition to serving as a shul, Etz Chaim, under the guidance of Rabbi Zvi Rabi, has for more than three decades served as a Torah Centre where men of all ages can come and learn in a welcoming atmosphere at any hour of the day.

Rebbetzin Mizrachi Inspires Women

Rebbetzin Yemima Mizrachi, the popular and charismatic Yerushalayim-based speaker, paid a flying visit to London recently. In an event jointly organised by Seed and Orah, which marked the occasion of Orah's second "birthday", Rebbetzin Yemima spoke on Wednesday evening to a crowd of around 500 women at Hasmonean Girls' School, on the topic of how women can attain a state of *simchah*.

The Rebbetzin, who is a mother, qualified lawyer and was recently rated as one of the most influential women in Israel, used her trademark sense of humour and human touch to bring her subject to life, so that her audience both laughed and cried, but above all, learned during the evening. Everyone present left feeling inspired by the Rebbetzin's words.

On Thursday, before her return to Israel, the Rebbetzin spoke in two private houses to standing-room-only audiences, talking about the *parashah* in the morning and the concept of "*mishenichnas Adar, marbin besimcha*" in the afternoon. The Rebbetzin's visit was made possible with the help of Aviva Soriano together with Rebbetzin Joanne

Dove of Seed and with the assistance of Hasmonean High School and Osher Levene of Orah.

Seed is planning to bring Rebbetzin Yemima back to the U.K. later in the year to participate in their forthcoming mass *challah*-baking event. It is hoped that it will be possible to bring together 5000 women in an *achdus* project, to bake *challah* together. Both the *challah*-baking and the Rebbetzin's return are eagerly awaited.

Gateshead

Sunderland Yeshiva Marks Yahrzeit of Harav Shamai Zahn, zt"l

Last Motzoei Shabbos, *Parashas Tetzaveh*, marked the 13th *yahrzeit* of the unforgettable *Rosh Yeshiva* of Yeshivas Netzach Yisroel, Sunderland Yeshiva, Harav Shamai Zahn, zt"l. Rabbanim, *bachurim* and members of the *kehillah* gathered in the yeshiva for an evening of *hisorerus l'ilui nishmaso*.

Harav Dovid Zahn, a son of Rav Shamai, delivered an erudite *dvar halachah*. In his opening words he related how each year, at the beginning of the annual *Yarchei Kallah* held in the Ponovezh Yeshiva, Harav Shach, zt"l, would state that all that they had in the yeshiva now was only due to the Ponevezher Rav. The same could be said about Rav Shamai, declared Rav Dovid. The current success of the Sunderland Yeshiva is all a product of his great efforts.

Harav Mattisyahu Salomon, visiting Gateshead to attend the *chasunah* of his granddaughter, also spoke at the event. He made reference to the *simchas hachaim* of Rav Shamai and how he was *mekadesh shem Shamayim* by means of his cheerful countenance. On a personal note he related how someone once approached him and asked why all Rabbis were so serious. Rav Mattisyahu asked him, "Do you find *all* Rabbis serious?" To which he admitted, "No, Rabbi Zahn is different."

Rav Mattisyahu reminded his listeners that a person's face is public property. Whilst you cannot see your own face, those around you can. Therefore, a sour face is a *bor birshus harabbim*.

Yerushalayim

Dayan Ehrentreu Delivers Shiur at Har Nof Kollel

Situated in Har Nof, Yerushalayim, Kollel Me'or HaTorah attracts English *yungerleit* from all over the city and beyond. The *kollel*, which is renowned for its stress on both *havanah* and *bekius*, has some of the best alumni of the U.K. yeshivos. With Rabbi Shimon Bergstein as Rosh Kollel, the

Rabbi David Katanka, z"l

Kehillos across the country were saddened to hear on Tuesday morning of the *petirah* of Rabbi David Katanka, z"l. Rabbi Katanka held a number of rabbinical appointments around the UK, including in Leeds, Sheffield, Edinburgh, Portsmouth and Golders Green. He was currently the *rav* of St Anne's Hebrew Congregation, where

a gathering to mark his *petirah* took place on Tuesday evening.

Hespedim were held in Hendon United Synagogue on Wednesday morning, followed by the *kevura* in the Adass Yisroel Cemetery, Enfield. Rabbi Katanka is survived by his wife, children and grandchildren. (Full obituary to follow)

Chief Rabbi Visits Yavneh College

Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis visited Yavneh College in Borehamwood on Tuesday morning, to speak to the pupils in a special assembly. Rabbi Mirvis spoke about the word *Yavneh*, cited in the *Gemara* as an acronym representing the four *brachos* of *havdalah*, and linked this to the students' lives. He also spoke about the importance of making good choices and how we should relate to and influence others in our daily lives.

After the assembly, one pupil said, "I found this very interest-

ing and informative because it showed us that you need to respect people and how our actions can affect those around us."

Head teacher Mr. Spencer Lewis commented, "It was a pleasure to welcome the Chief Rabbi to Yavneh College and to hear his inspiring words. We are grateful for the Chief Rabbi's support of Jewish schools in the United Kingdom, and we look forward to welcoming him to Yavneh on many future occasions."



Some of the Imperial College students in Gibraltar with Student Chaplain Rabbi Gavin Broder (third L.).



Year 2 pupils of Broughton Jewish Cassel Fox Primary School at their Chumash party on Sunday.

Lawrence Purcell



Whitefield Kollel's bar mitzvah group, Club13, held a programme on the importance of *kibbud av va'em* this week. Pictured here are *kollel* member Mychiel Balshine and assistant Benjy Harris with a group of boys from Jewish and non-Jewish schools.

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