

GATESHEAD YESHIVA NEWSLETTER

ניסן תשפ"ד

Welcome to our Pesach 5784/2024 Newsletter distributed to over 7,000 alumni of the Yeshiva. We are delighted to share with you a brief overview of the recent winter zman.

B'H we have close to 400 bochurim at Sof Zman.

Yeshiva News



The Hanholo are pleased to announce the appointment of **Mr Avi Merel** as the Deputy CEO of the Yeshiva. Mr Merel brings with him many years of experience in management/finance and has a keen understanding of the regulatory/legal aspects of running a Yeshiva.

The Hanholo wish him much הצלחה in his new role in good health and for many years. A new office has been constructed and Mr Merel will assume his official responsibilities after Pesach בס"ד.

Home Office

Bechasdei Hashem, we are delighted to share the outstanding news that Gateshead Yeshiva has demonstrated excellence in its recent Home Office inspection, showcasing our unwavering commitment to maintaining the highest standards throughout the Yeshiva. Despite thorough scrutiny, we are proud to have met all requirements, a testament to the dedication and hard work of our esteemed administration team.

Their remarkable diligence and perseverance have not only secured our compliance with regulations but have also ensured that the Yeshiva continues to be a thriving Mokom Torah on every level.

On behalf of the Alumni Committee, we extend our

deepest gratitude and heartfelt thanks to Mr. Shimon Guttentag, Mr. Totty Lebrecht, Mr. Chaim Karniol and the entire administration team for their outstanding contributions.

As we celebrate this achievement, let us reaffirm our dedication to upholding the highest standards of chinuch at the Yeshiva. Together, let us continue to strive for excellence in all our endeavors, ensuring that our beloved yeshiva remains a beacon of light and learning for generations to come.

Mazel tov to the entire Gateshead Yeshiva community on this momentous milestone!

The full report can be found [here](#).

Purim

As the festivities began Thursday night after Taanis Esther, the bochurim participated in a full 3 hr seder followed by refreshments.

After the Megillah on Purim night, our Talmidim participated in the now established annual

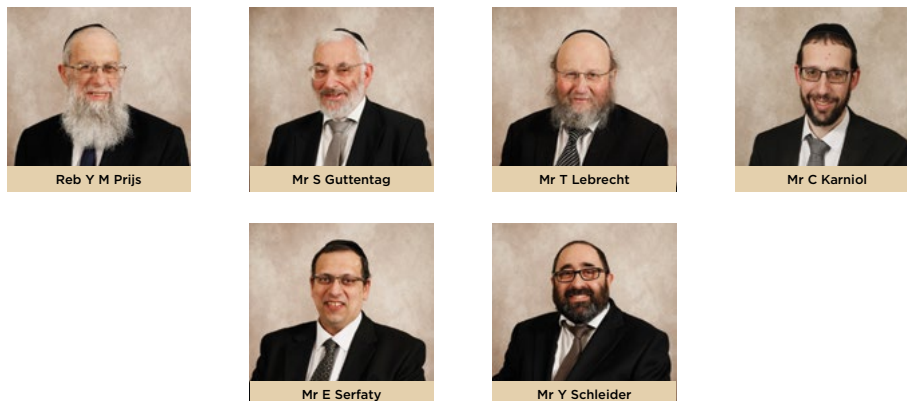
Seder בהשתתפות רבני הישיבה. This was followed by a lavish Seudah honoured with the attendance of all the Hanholas HaYeshiva. The Rosh HaYeshiva addressed the gathering and there was "lebedige" dancing afterwards well into the early hours.

Melave Malka

At the end of the long winter zman the Yeshiva celebrated with a meaningful מלוא during which a special honour was accorded to those Bochurim who partook in the 'קימו וקבלו' programme חיצוק לימוד התורה ותפילה.

Yeshiva Photo

The Yeshiva organised a photo-shoot of the Hanholo and of the Bochorim. The previous one was taken 31 years ago! These photos will be available for purchase via the Yeshiva office.



Yeshiva "Family" news

Mazel Tov

- Rosh HaYeshiva for the recent חתונות of his grandchildren in ארץ ישראל and America
- HoRav Mordechai Yosef Karnowsky for the חתונה of his grandchild in ארץ ישראל and the בר מצוה of twin grandsons in Monsey, NY.
- HoRav Chaim Ozer Gurwicz for the recent חתונה of his grandchild in ארץ ישראל.
- HoRav Dovid Krausz for the birth of a grandchild to Rabbi and Mrs Steinhaus of Gateshead, and the birth of a grandson in America.
- HoRav Shimon Grun on the marriage of his daughter to Yisroel Segal, son of Reb Eli Segal (a former Talmid) of London. Also מזל טוב on the birth of his grandson born to Rabbi and Mrs Yisroel Meir Rebenwurzel. And מזל טוב to the Zeide, HoRav Yosef Aron Oppenheimer.
- HoRav Simcha Feld for the בר מצוה of his son Yisroel Meir.
- HoRav Chaim Grunwald on the marriage of his daughter to Chaim Aryeh Blum.
- HoRav Benzion Fierstone for the בר מצוה of his son Moshe.
- Mr Totty Lebrecht on the birth of a grandson, born to Mr and Mrs Ari Simons of Gateshead.
- Mr Yehuda Schleider on the marriage of his daughter.
- Mr Chaim Karniol for the בר מצוה of his son Moshe and on the birth of a daughter.

CONDOLENCES

- HoRav Refoel Lieberman on the פטירה of his Mother ע"ה.

London Simchas Beis Hashoavo

The Alumni arranged a Simchas Beis Hashoava on Succos in London. It was a truly uplifting and unifying event, showcasing the remarkable achdus between current talmidim, proud alumni, and generations of fathers and sons.

We were honored by the presence of esteemed members of the Hanholoh, including HoRav Eliyohu Gurwicz Shlita, HoRav Simcha Feld Shlita, HoRav Bentzion Fierstone Shlita and HoRav Chanoch Sulzbacher Shlita who travelled to join the event. Many thanks to the Alumni Committee for their dedicated efforts in organising this beautiful event.



המשגיח הרב מתתיהו סלומון זצ"ל



Gateshead Yeshiva and bnei torah around the world were saddened by the Petiroh of מרן המשגיח הרב מתתיהו סלומון זצ"ל, on the 22nd Teves. Our Yeshiva held Heispeidim for Rav Salomon ZT'L on Rosh Chodesh Shevat.

The Maspidim were the Rosh HaYeshiva Shlita, HoRav Ezriel Rosenbaum Shlita, HoRav Moshe Salomon Shlita, HoRav Yosef Ahron Oppenheimer Shlita, and the Mashgiach HoRav Mordechai Yosef Karnowsky Shlita.

From Gateshead *to the* World



By Gedalia Guttentag

Even without the English accent in which he delivered the soaring speeches that took America by storm, the very informality of the name “Reb Mattisyahu” marked the Mashgiach as being Gateshead’s proudest export. Years after moving across the Atlantic, it persisted, encapsulating the story of a gadol who burst out of a corner of England to become one of the defining personalities of the modern Torah world.

Reb Mattisyahu was a Gateshead phenomenon. When he was an energetic 17-year-old, it was suggested that he leave the yeshivah and go to work to help the family. But his mother told him not to worry; although the young bochur did take time off in the evenings to help out packaging the tartan-themed stationery and trinkets that were shipped off for sale in Scotland, he would make up any lost time the following day before Shacharis.

It was the first inkling of a genuine thirst for learning that would eventually set him apart from his peers. But first, the traumatic loss of his father revealed itself in a sensitivity to the plight of others that would be a lifelong mark of Reb Mattisyahu’s nature.

Rabbi Menashe Koninsky — now a rosh kollel in Kiryat Sefer — was an Antwerp-born bochur who was orphaned of his parents in the war, and came to Gateshead Yeshivah. Two years younger than Reb Mattisyahu, he was taken under the latter’s wing.

“Reb Mattisyahu became a father figure for

his younger siblings, and would lead the family Seder on Pesach. He invited me to join, which I did for both Pesach and Succos for a number of years.”

Reb Mattisyahu’s own decade-long tenure in the storied Gateshead Kollel was preceded by the only learning experience that took place beyond the precincts of Gateshead. The yeshivah was headed by the duumvirate of the two “Reb Leibs” — Reb Leib Gurwitz and his brother-in-law Reb Leib Lopian.

The latter suggested that the razor-sharp Salomon bochur should go to Kfar Chassidim, to Reb Leib’s father, the renowned Rav Elya Lopian. Mattisyahu Salomon was there for less than a year, but merited a very close relationship with the aged baal mussar.

That connection imprinted itself in the British bochur’s DNA. He regarded Rav Elya as his rebbi, and frequently quoted from his mussar, a legacy of Kelm. “Derhoiben,” elevated, is one of the most frequent descriptions that people used about him, alongside — improbably — “friend.”

That’s because he had that rarest of gifts: the ability to wear his undoubted stature lightly. He was the man who was remembered both for his powerful tefillos as well as for the l’chayim he’d shared with those who flew with him.

In 1967 — with Reb Mattisyahu a mere 30 years old — he joined the yeshiva as junior mashgiach, under Rav Moshe Schwab ztz”l. “I joined the yeshivah a year before Reb Mattisyahu did,”

remembers Rabbi Avrohom Katz, founder of Gateshead's New Seminary. "Initially, he was looked at with a slight degree of bochurly cynicism, because he gave shiurim on things like emunah. We had never heard that treated as subject — it was always a given. His shiurim had a proper structure, not the wanderings of a Torah mind. And they resonated, because they were full of ideas that could be put into practice."

Being mashgiach was far more than delivering shiurim, says Mr. Totty Lebrecht, the longtime yeshivah administrator, who worked closely with the Mashgiach from 1987 until Reb Mattisyahu left in 1997.

"He was indefatigable — he was up at 4:30 to learn until Shacharis, then gave a vaad on Ramban, then would go on his routines as mashgiach in the most practical way. He'd wake up bochurim, have appointments with them for much of the morning, and after lunch, another chavrusa, and prepare his different shmuessen and vaadim, which would continue in the evenings, unless he had to travel out of town, which he did frequently."

What drove him, says Totty Lebrecht, was not his job, but a sense of responsibility. "He felt, 'If I don't wake up this boy, then who will?' He was a big baal achrayus — that was his nature."

Over the years in Gateshead, Reb Mattisyahu's davening on the Yamim Noraim established itself as something legendary. It was less the nusach than the power and meaning that he infused in the words that brought alumni back years after leaving the yeshivah.

In that category belongs the story of the bloodstained machzor, which continues to be retold in the town. One year, when his brother Eliyahu was ill, Reb Mattisyahu put such effort into the words "U'teshuvah u'tefillah u'tzedakah" that he had a nosebleed, erasing the words "maavirin es roa hagezeirah."

That year, the (true) story goes, no one in the Gateshead kehillah died.

The canonical status of that anecdote goes a long way to convey the powerful impression of the Mashgiach's davening, and the reverence with which he came to be held across the town.

Regular visitors to the Salomon house in Gateshead, and later in Lakewood, would have noticed a constant: the Rebbetzin acting as gatekeeper. Sitting in the kitchen, all day and until late at night, she would answer the phone, saying "Salomon!"

Rebbetzin Miriam was born in Manchester, to the Falk family — like the Salomons, of German origin, who went on to establish themselves as a British Torah dynasty. Reb Mattisyahu and his wife were married in 1960, and she became an integral element in his success both in England and America.

That success was based on his renowned ability to listen and advise, as well as his status as a preeminent leader. Fiercely protective against any threat to the yeshivah world, he was an outward-looking visionary who'd been an early advocate of kiruv while still a young mashgiach.

As his body succumbed over the last few years, and his horizons shrunk to his own four walls, Reb Mattisyahu's famous smile didn't falter.

Asked by his oldest son, Rav Yaakov Yehudah Salomon, how he could make peace with his new circumstances, he replied with a reference to the stop-start, erratic journeys of Klal Yisrael for 40 years in the desert, which were "al pi Hashem."

"Hashem wanted that I should serve him in one way," he would say, "and now He wants me to serve Him in another."

That emunah is what he'd absorbed in Gateshead, and was an illustration of what happens when the mind is matched by the heart; and when Torah brilliance is allied with the magnetism that fills rooms.

Excerpted from A Vision For His People, Mishpacha Magazine Issue 994



L'Dovid Mizmor

The final revisions to the plans are currently being made after months of engaging with the local councillors and planning officers via the professional team driving this project.

We look forward to sharing more details of this exciting scheme bez"H in the Summer.

Rosh HaYeshiva in Lakewood

The Rosh HaYeshiva and the Rebetzin travelled to the USA in the winter for the wedding of a granddaughter.

Their arrival on Wednesday 22nd Kislev coincided with the Petira and Levaya of the Mashgiach Harav Matissyohu Salomon ZT'L. The Rosh HaYeshiva detoured from the airport straight to the Levaya proceedings and was maspid Moron Hamashgiach at Beis Medrash Govoha Lakewood.

HoRav Mordechai Yosef Karnowsky Shlit'a was also in the USA at the time and was also maspid.

During the five day visit, The Rosh HaYeshiva met with alumni and friends, giving chizuk at a number of Mosdos in the Lakewood area, many run by former Talmidim of the Yeshiva.

The Rosh Yeshiva also attended a small gathering at the offices of CCH Healthcare hosted by former Talmid R' Yanki Stern to benefit the Yeshiva. The Rosh Yeshiva spoke of the demands on a Ben Torah derived from the Gemara in Bava Basra 110. This was followed by a tribute to HoRav Matisyahu ZT'L. The Rosh HaYeshiva then led a lively discussion imparting personal anecdotes and memories from his younger years in particular with the Brisker Rov ZT'L.

The Rosh HaYeshiva also affixed a Mezuzah at the home of R' Boruch Jeremias.



The Rosh Yeshiva shlita being מנחם אבל at Family Salomon.



Alumni Website

We are very pleased to announce that our new website has been formally released and updated with many new items and shiurim as follows - from the Hanholoh, weekly Divrei Torah from the Rosh HaYeshiva (in English), Hespeditim of HoRav Matisyahu Salomon ZT'L, the reports from the inspection by the Home Office, and reservation options for the upcoming Yemei Limmud (YL4) event To visit the website go to www.gatesheadyeshiva.org.



YEMEI LIMMUD 4

We are excited to announce that the annual Yemei Limmud will take place in the Yeshiva on the 28th-29th July (22nd-23rd Tamuz). Following the success of past years, the Hanholo and Alumni Committee invite you to join us for two days of learning in the **כותלי בית המדרש** alongside your son/grandson, and **בחורי הישיבה**. The program will **בעז"ה** feature Sedorim, Shiurim and Vaadim led by the Rosh HaYeshiva and our esteemed Rabbonim. The Yeshiva will be learning **מסכת בבא מציעא פרק איזהו נשך**. Details of group travel and accommodation, along with a comprehensive program and schedule will **י"ח** follow in due course.

We look forward to welcoming Alumni and friends of the Yeshiva, of all ages, to participate in this memorable event now firmly fixed in the Yeshiva calendar.

Alumni List

It is with some regret that in order to comply with GDPR legislation we had to remove the list of over 7000 alumni from our website (even though it contained only their name, city/country, years in Yeshiva). Please click [here](#) to give your consent to having your information on the list so that we can reinstate a shorter version of the list soon.



To receive the

Weekly Dvar Torah

from the Rosh HaYeshiva שליט"א
in English

which is now delivered
electronically - please click [here](#)



So, how can I help?

The Yeshiva budget exceeds £4M (\$5M) each year to keep going. This has risen significantly over the last years with inflation, energy costs and the costs of new regulatory demands, as well as new members of staff.

Fees provide almost 60% and we are ever grateful

to Achisomoch, our longstanding partner. Yeshiva relies on generous donors, friends and supporters to raise in excess of well over £1M per year. Please consider and support the Yeshiva at this time either via [Achisomoch](#), through the [donate page](#) on our website or through the Yeshiva office. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

שליט"א A vort from HoRav Simcha Feld

תלויין ומקושרים זה בזה. דעל ידי זה שיצאו קודם שנשלם זמן הגלות הוכרחו להיות עוד פעם שני בגלות ונמצא דליל פסח גרם ליל תשעה באב. אך הקשה שם הבית הלוי הא כל חובת מרור הוא רק כזית ומה שייך לומר השביעני במרורים דיהיה שביעה ממרור הא אין חיוב לאכל מרור כדי שביעה. ומפרש הבית הלוי דפסח הוא דין לאכל על השובע, ולפי הלל דהיה כורך פסח מצה ומרור ביחד נמצא דהיה כולם נאכלים על השובע. ודן בזה מה שייך במרור להיות נאכל על השובע דלמה לו להיות נשאר טעמו בפיו והרי מרירות של השעבוד כבר חלף ועבר לו ואיננו עוד עתה. רק כיון דהיה אז באמצע הזמן וכל הגאולה היה על סמך שיהיה עוד גלות אחר משום הכי צריך להיות נשאר טעמו בפיו וזהו הדרשא דהשביעני במרורים, וצריך לבאר דהרי אה"נ כל הגאולה כיון דהיה באמצע הזמן הוא על סמך שיהיה עוד גלות, וגלות שאנו נמצאים בו עכשיו באמת הוא המשך של זה, אבל אמאי זה סיבה שיהיה טעמו בפיו, הא לכא"ו יסוד זו דטעמו בפיו בפסח הוא שיהיה נשאר לנו יסוד זה דהגאולה שגאל אותנו מעבדות לחירות אבל הגלות הרי אנו נמצאים בו עכשיו וטועמין את מרירתו ואיזה טעם יש לעשות שיהיה נשאר בפיו מהגלות הראשון שהיו במצרים.

ונראה ביאורן של דברים דכתב בס' אורחות חיים להרא"ש סוף יום ראשון כי מי שאינו מאמין אשר הוצאתיך מארץ מצרים אף באנכי ד' אלוקיך אינו מאמין ואין זה יחוד שלם. ותמה ר' יחזקאל זצ"ל (קו"ע אלול תשכ"ז) הרי מי שאינו מאמין ביציאת מצרים הוא כופר ומה שייך לומר על זה דאין זה יחוד שלם. אך ביאר ר' יחזקאל זצ"ל דבנוסף לנפלאות שבגאולה מפרעה וממצרים היתה גם גאולה ממ"ט שערי טומאה שהיו שקועים בתוכה ומי שסובר שאין בכוחו של אדם להתרומם ליחוד השלם ומצבו קבוע בשיטות הנבללות במ"ט שערי טומאה אם כן אינו מאמין באשר הוצאתיך שיצאנו משלטון הטומאה וא"כ אף באנכי ד' אלוקיך אינו מאמין ואין זה יחוד השלם עכ"ל ובדבריו הנפלאים נתגלה כאן בטובת הבורא בכוחות האדם דמאיזה דרגא שאדם עומד יכול להתעלות יותר ויותר והקב"ה שומר אותנו עד כדי לדלג על ההרים ולהוציא באמצע הגלות שיהיה זה בכוחינו לעלות עד יחוד השלם. ובזה מובן שיהיה בפיו טעם מרור דטעם זה צריך להיות בפיו ביחד עם טעם דקרבת פסח דהוא טעם של גאולה גם טעם מרור דהיינו טעם שיצאנו באמצע הגלות והיסוד בזה הוא דיש לכל אחד ואחד כח לעלות והקב"ה שומר אותנו שיהיה לעולם בידינו עלי' זו.

בברכה שנזכה לעלות במעלה עד היחוד השלם ונזכה לגאולה שלמה ונאכל שם מן הזבחים ומן הפסחים

ממני הדו"ש
שמחה פעלד

לכבוד תלמידי ובוגרי ישיבה הק' בכל אתר ואתר לאי"ט,

לקראת חג הגאולה הבעל"ט הנני לקדם אתכם וכל הנלוים עליכם בברכה שנזכה כולנו יחד לחגוג ימים נשגבים אלו בששון ובשמחה ובצפייה שבקרוב יקבצינו ד' בגאולה שלימה לארצנו.

כתיב בפרשת שמות (ג. י"א) מי אנכי כי אלך אל פרעה וכי אוציא את בני ישראל ממצרים, ומפרש רש"י דשתי שאילות שאל משה רבינו כאן, חדא מה אני חשוב לדבר עם מלכים, ועוד אף אם אני חשוב מה זכו ישראל' להעשות להם נס. וביאר בספר בית הלוי דב' שאילות אלו למבוקש אחד הן הולכין, דמבואר במדרש דגאולת מצרים משום דהיה על ידי בשר ודם דהיינו על ידי משה ואהרן ולא הקב"ה בעצמו חזרו ונשתעבדו, גאולת בבל שהיה ע"י חנני' מישא' ועזרי' חזרו ונשתעבדו, גאולת יון שהיה ע"י מתת' ובניו חזרו ונשתעבדו, אמרו כלל ישראל' אין אנו מבקשים שיאיר לנו בשר ודם מלמטה אלא הקב"ה שנאמר קל ד' ויאר לנו - הרי כל דהגאולה היא ע"י בשר ודם הוא סימן שאינו גאולה עולמית רק היכא דנגאלין ע"י הקב"ה בעצמו הוה גאולה עולמית. ומשום זה סירב משה רבינו להוציאם ממצרים, ואף דהרבה פעמים מסר נפשו בשביל ישראל', כאן לא רצה לגאלם דאין זה גאולה עולמית. וזה ב' השאילות מי אנכי הרי רצה שגאולה יהיה ע"י הקב"ה בעצמו שיהיה גאולה עולמית, ועוד שאל איזה זכות יש להם ליגאל, ואם יש להם זכות ליגאל זהו גופא סיבה שישגאלם הקב"ה בעצמו ויהיה גאולה שלמה.

ולזה אמר הקב"ה למשה רבינו בהוציאך את העם ממצרים תעבדון את האלוקים על ההר הזה, וכתב רש"י וששאלת מה זכות יש לישראל' שיצאו ממצרים דבר גדול יש לי על הוצאה זו שהרי עתידים לקבל התורה על ההר הזה. והביאור לכא"ו בזה דמה סיבה היא זו לקבל את התורה הא ראוי עוד להיות הגאולה ע"י הקב"ה דיהיה גאולה עולמית ויכולין אחר זה לקבל את התורה, אלא כמו שכתב הבית הלוי דמבואר בספרים דאם לא היו נגאלים אז היו מקולקלים כל כך עד דשוב לא היו נגאלים לעולם גם בהגיע זמן, וזהו מה שאמר הקב"ה דשמו הוא אהקה אשר אהקה דלפי פעולתיו הוא נקרא והבחינה בגאולה זו דיהיה קודם זמן הגאולה הוא הכנה כדי שיוכלו להגאל אח"כ לעתיד גאולה דלעולם, ומבואר היטב מה שאמר הקב"ה דהזכות להגאל הוא משום דעתידים לקבל את התורה ואם לא יהיו נגאלים מיד ע"י משה רבינו גאולה לזמן אף פעם לא יבא לידי גאולה דלעולם ולא יהיה קבלת התורה.

כתיב במגילת איכה (ג' ט"ו) השביעני במרורים הרוני לענה ובמדרש שם מבאר מה שהשביעני במרורים בלילי פסח הרוני לענה בליל תשעה באב, דליל תשעה באב חל לעולם בלילה שחל בו פסח, וכתב הבית הלוי בפרשת בא דעומק דברי חז"ל הוא דהן