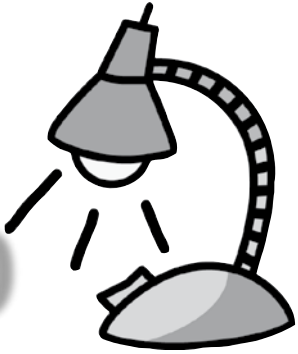
FOCUS ON TELFED



ELECTIONS FOR THE TELFED EXECUTIVE

Two years are up, and it's election time again for six positions on the Telfed Executive.

Telfed is looking for candidates of all ages, from all walks of life and from all over Israel.

Challenging times lie ahead for our community both in Israel and Southern Africa, and we look forward to new faces around the Executive table. Please read the nomination flyer enclosed herewith for full details. Voting will take place in January, by way of voting slips appearing in the following issue of Telfed. We have also introduced secure on-line voting through our Telfed Website.

Compiled by **Sharon Bernstein**

I-r: Dorron Kline, Moshe Lederman, Shaliach in Cape Town and Ofer Dahan, who has taken over as Director of the Israel Centre.

TELFED WELCOMES KLINE

Telfed is pleased to welcome the immediate past Director of the Israel Centre (I.C.), **Dorron Kline**, to the staff of Telfed. A rabbi, a former national shaliach to South Africa and a former lecturer at Bar Ilan University in Political Science, Dorron brings a wealth of experience to his new position. A popular emissary, Dorron could be seen almost every Friday night at a different shul where he managed to incorporate Israel and Zionism into his sermons. It was often joked, "Here is a rabbi that works on Shabbat!" Dorron is married with five daughters.

Dorron will be liaising with the SAZF, JAFI, MASA and other affiliate organizations in creating and implementing programmes for joint projects, as well as for groups visiting from South Africa. He will also be involved in Telfed's fundraising activities. See below report on the Israel Centre.

FAREWELL MARTIN

Telfed sadly bids farewell to **Martin Lewak**, who outstandingly served as Telfed's Financial Comptroller for the past 13 years. Martin's role in managing the many trust funds under Telfed's administration was indispensable. He gave the Finance Committee the neces-

Martin with his grandchild. "After spending most of my career in the commercial world, it was an "eye-opener" and a privilege to join Telfed and experience first-hand the outstanding work the staff and volunteers do."

sary tools to ensure that the funds were astutely invested, providing the income needed to assist our community and to ensure the smooth functioning of Telfed's activities.

Martin ran an efficient accounts department ensuring timeous reports and streamlined functioning while maintaining a warm relationship with the staff and our volunteers. Martin's presence in the office will be missed and we wish him a well-deserved retirement.

TELFED HAD A DREAM

THE ISRAEL CENTRE

2002 saw the curtain rise on the **Israel Centre** in South Africa; the realization of Telfed's vision and a culmination of a SAZF/Jewish Agency collaboration. The aim was to coordinate under one umbrella all Israel-related activities — Zionist education, Aliyah promotion and the work of the 20+ Israeli emissaries. Working hand-in-hand with the SAZF, **Michael Mensky**, the first director of the I.C., succeeded in incorporating Israel theme projects into the Jewish Day schools and in unifying the work of the Israeli delegation which runs Israel-oriented programmes nationwide. In 2004, Telfed, through the Israel Centre, initiated and developed a new Aliyah-Housing Project in the city of Modi'in and more recently, partnered with the IDC, Herzliya in promoting an academic programme in which Southern Africans can study for degrees in English in Israel. Numerous other projects are in the pipeline.

TZAIR BALEV (Young at Heart)

"With the aim of having younger members in our community meet new and potential young olim, Tzair Balev was established," says **Paul Moss,** Chairman of Telfed's newly established committee. "More and more young people are coming on long and short-term programmes and we aim to connect with them," say Paul.

Says committee member **Leanne Bernstein** of the SAUJS group which came out recently: "We organised an inter-active event in a park in Raanana. The students were divided up into small groups and moved from one station to the next, where we discussed subjects ranging from the army, education, high-tech and the social scene. It was a great success, mainly because we had facilitators who could relate to the age of the group."

A major area of focus has been keeping in touch with Southern Africans in the army, who have no family in Israel. "We make sure they have somewhere to go on their free shabbatot and chagim," says Paul. After the war, Telfed donated vouchers for breakfast-for-two to eighteen lone soldiers from Southern Africa.

In 2004 the National Aliyah shaliach, **Dorron Kline**, became Director of the Israel Centre and amalgamated the two positions into one. Today, weekly lessons on Zionism are taught to Matric and high school pupils in the Jewish Day Schools, as well as to Jewish pupils in the non-Jewish schools. Every second Shabbat, a different syna-

Telfed Chairman Itz Kalmanowitz and Teddy Saitowitz represented Telfed at the recent SAZF's Conference in Johannesburg. Itz addressed the large audience of over 1000 delegates at the opening ceremony, while Teddy spoke at the aliyah session, relating his personal experiences in starting a business in Israel. They are seen here holding an ongoing art-work, a project of Teddy's to fill in small boxes on "Impressions of Israel."

gogue in South Africa - including the country communities - hosts the Israel Centre for an Israel-focused Shabbaton. The founding of PSAI (Parents of South Africans in Israel) has enabled over 250 parents in Johannesburg and Cape Town to attend monthly meetings preparing them for possible aliyah and easing the pain of distance by sharing experiences. Regular visits to the university campuses to promote MASA (long term programmes in Israel for youth), together with the running of Hagshama (the youth division of the WZO), have ensured a steady flow of university graduates to Israel on aliyah and long-term programmes.

A major achievement of the Israel Centre was the establishment of the "Israel Encounter" programme for Grade 12 students, in which over 200 pupils attend an eleven-day seminar in Israel. The "Israel Odyssey" programme for post-high school students allows South Africans the opportunity to study for a year at Bar Ilan University, explore Israel and then decide on their academic future. In 2002, Aliyah accounted for 11% of Jewish emigration from South Africa. Today that percentage has increased to almost 40%, indicating that Jewish emigration is on the decline.

We are seeing an annual average of 150 Olim and 900 participants on long and short-term progammes in Israel.

Looking back over four years enables us to have a great sense of pride in the achievements of the Israel Centre and we wish the incoming director, **Ofer Dahan**, much success in his new post.

l-r: Phillip Chasen, Sidney Shapiro, Robyn Rotberg and Susan Sharon in HaMifal Village, Afula.

TRUST IN TELFED

Telfed director, **Sidney Shapiro**, together with members of **Telfed's Endowment and Scholarship Committee** (E & S), **Susan Sharon, Robyn Rotberg** and **Phillip Chasen** recently attended the opening of a Therapy Room in the Animal Park of Hamifal Village, Afula. This special facility was created some years ago to accommodate and attend to the needs of children from challenging environments. The children stay in a "home environment"

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with foster parents who care for them with love and respect.

The committee members were delighted to see the results of a donation by the **Isadore & Theresa Cohen Educational Trust Fund**, administered by **Telfed**. The therapy room, newly renovated, allows for professional staff to meet with the children on a one-to-one basis.

The visitors were later shown round the village. "It was wonderful to see a party given for two girls, one Russian and one Ethiopian, who had recently completed their Bagrut and were now off to the army," said Susan, secretary of the E & S Committee.

PRAS WORTHY

Will you be studying next year? If so, have you filled in the PRAS Community Service application form? By participating in this worthwhile project, where you can tutor new olim, be company for elderly people or be a big brother or sister to a lonely child, you will be rewarded not only by the enriching experience, but also by receiving a supplementary study bursary. The programme is into its fifth

l-r back row: Eddy Solomon, Pam Hack, Mor Samuelson, PRAS Student Coordinator Natalie Sandler, Orlit Levin, Ashira Menashe, Jenny Michalowsky, Gideon Scher, Shira Dreiblatt. front row: Alon Chasen, Kira Golin, Yehoshua Tobias. Mazal Tov to Natalie Sandler on her engagement.

year and interviews will be held shortly after the chagim. For further information please call Debbie Chitiz, 09-7446110 ext 205.

AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER

Some twenty-five talented Southern African artists from all over Israel exhibited at **Telfed's Art & Sculpture Fair** held in the open-air piazza at Kfar Saba's shopping mall. In attendance were the **Chairman of the Jewish Agency, Zeev Bielski, Deputy Ambassador from South Africa, Sarel Kruger** and the **Mayor of Kfar Saba**, **Yehuda Ben Hamo**.

Vice Chair Hilary Kaplan, whose Event's committee organised the Fair, said, "We can be truly proud of the impact of the Southern African community on the State of Israel in so many spheres. Today we salute and feast our eyes on their talents in art and sculpture." •

top: Organizing team with Zeev Bielski; l-r, Janine Gelley, Hilary Kaplan, JA Chair Zeev Bielski, Michelle Wolff, Marcelle Weiss middle left: Leonie Barel with a ceramic figurine wonderland. middle right: Menachem and Lydia Gosher with unique avian sculptures. bottom: Marlene Ferrer of Tivon displays her paintings.

Fonda Dubb with some «food for thought».

FONDA'S FOOD DEMO

Fonda Dubb of Eilat recently gave a food demonstration in the garden of **Janine Gelley** in Kfar Saba. Janine, the chairwoman of Telfed's Kfar Saba regional committee, welcomed over fifty guests thanking them for their support for the **Aliza Hatchuel Fund**, where the proceeds go towards helping youngsters with special educational needs.•

GET-TOGETHER ON THE EVE OF WAR

A coffee evening was held for new olim at the home of **Barry** and **Marcelle Kornel** in Raanana - an opportunity for new immigrants to meet veterans and hear about their experiences as well as enjoy, as always, a splendid Marcelle spread.

Coffee Evening in Ra'anana, l-r: Ofer Peer, Adele and Ronen Cassuto, Caryn Peer.

Durban, which today has a very small Jewish community, boasted three new olim families, two to Raanana and one to Kibbutz Afikim in the Galil. Twenty-four hours after the coffee evening, where all the olim expressed that they were positive about being in Israel despite the incursion into Gaza following the kidnapping of Corp. Shalit, two more Israeli soldiers were kidnapped on the Lebanese border leading to war. •

right: Telfed Vice-Chair Annette Milliner and Janine Gelley pack parcels for Israel's soldiers.

left: Hilary Kaplan with soldiers who will take the parcels to the North.

TELFED DURING THE WAR

The American phrase "working the phones" best categorized the atmosphere in the Telfed office. With so many Southern Africans living in Haifa, Karmiel and the northern settlements, Telfed staff, together with the volunteers, spent days and nights phoning members of the community. Telfed counselor **Louise Geva** was on hand to take questions and offer counsel. "What I found

Telfed Exposure Hilary and Janine being interviewed by Channel 10 on Telfed's work assisting soldiers in the North.

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Telfed thanks the following individuals for their generosity in helping our soldiers during the recent war.

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ABELSOHN LESLEY
AGULNIK ZIONA
ALHADEFF NICK
APTER MIRIAM
ARIEL NAOMI
ARIELI PAUL & MAY
ARZEE ELMA
BACH LYN
BARAK ESTHER
BARK HARRIET
BASSIN ADELE
BEEN EFFI
BEINART LEORA
BENJAMIN NINA
BERCOWITZ TONY
BERKLEY SHEILA
BERMAN JASON
BERNSTEIN JASON & LEANNE
BERNSTEIN SHARON
BETH PROTEA RESIDENTS
BLOOM DAVID
BLUMBERG MIRIAM
BOBROV PAM
BOROK GESSIE
BRAUN DENNIS AND ELAINE
BUTCHINS MARLYN
CHAZEN LLOYD
CHITIZ DEBBIE
COBB SHELLEY
COHEN SOL & CHERILLE
DAVIS DAPHNE
DAVIS IRIS & JONATHAN
DERMAN SHERYL & ERROL
DOLINSKY RACHEL & SAM
DONNER EVE
EDELSTEIN TEDDY & MARSHA
ELLERT BILLY
ELSTEIN GILA
EPSTEIN SHARON
FAINMAN L.
FEINBLUM VALERIE
FEITELSON ROS
FINE JEAN
FINZI DIANA
FISHER NAOMI & LAWRENCE
FOX HYMAN
FRANCO GITA
FREEDMAN SUE
FRIEDLAND MARK & PETA-LYNN
FURMAN SAVILLE & SHELLEY
GALLOON JACK & RAE
GELLEY JANINE
GEVA LOUISE
GILBERT BARNEY & MINNIE
GILINSKY IKE & NATALIE
GLASSMAN MAYERA
GOLDBERG JOEL
GOLDBERG SHEILA
GOLDFUS CHAIM
GOLDSTEIN WENDY
GOLDWAY MICHAEL & RENEE
GORK PHYLLIS
GOSS MARGARET
GRAHAM CHARLES
GREENSTEIN IVAN
GROHME-ESCHWEILER, MARIE
GURI JACKIE & DVORA
GURLAND RAIE
HARE IVAN
HORWITZ LESLEY
ISAACSON MERVYN
JABLONKA BERLE
JACOBS CHARLENE
JACOBSON RALPH & JUDY
JOFFE ARNOLD
JOFFE PAMELA
JOHNSTONE REBECCA
JUDEIKEN PAULINE
KACEV ISSY AND SONIA
KACEV LYN
KAGAN LAWRENCE
KAGAN SANDRA
KALLEY'S BRIDGE GROUP
KALMIN DENISE
KALMIN ELIZABETH
KAPLAN ANN
KAPLAN DAVID & HILARY
KAPLAN ROSLYN
KATZ MARIANNE
KATZEFF AIDA
KAYE CARA
KEYNAN NECHAMA
KLEIN SANDRA
KLUG ROS
KORAKIN NARDA
KRAMER ISSY
KRUGER MORRIS
LACOB LEAH
LANDAU JULIE
LEE NAT AND RUTH
LEVESQUE PAMELA
LEVIN RISHA
LEVIN ROSEMARY
LEVINSTEIN SUSAN
LEVITAS GIDON
LEWIS INGRID
LIPMAN EDWARD
LIPSITZ RENE
LUDMIR ABE AND PAULA
MANDELZWEIG GORDON & DOROTHY
MARKS DAVID
MENACHEMSON ALAN
MEYER BRIAN
MEYER JANICE
MEYER SUSAN
MEYEROWITZ VIVIAN
MILLINER ANNETTE
MILLINER TONI
MILNER JULES
MONDAY BRIDGE GROUP
MORRIS FAY
MOSS LEON
MOVSAS MICHAEL
MOWSZOWSKI REUVEN & ROS
MUNDEL GEORGE & ROXIE
MYERS FRANK & ROCHIE
NORWITZ, ROLLO
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PEARL LENNY
PELED PAMELA
PENN ZELDA
PERL THEO AND DENISE
PETERS STUART
PINCUS FREDA
PINSHOW VIVIENNE
PLANER MEYER
PLEHN SARAH
POLIAK MERVYN
POLSKY-NAKASH MARION
PORTER COLIN
PRICE ELLEN
PROMISLOW AVRIL
RABINOWITZ RAE
RAZ RUTH
RAZ SHUNI
REISS ROBIN
RESNIK MARCELLE
ROBERTS PAUL
ROSENBERG EVELYN & ELI
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SCHNOUR JOAN
SCHWARTZ NEIL
SCHWARTZ SHULAMIT
SEBBA ESTHER RIMON
SEGAL ELENE
SEGAL MANDY
SENDER BRENDA
SENDZUL DIANE
SEREBRO BABETTE & LESLIE
SERMAN REEVE
SHAER DIANE
SHAKENOVSKY INGRID
SHAKENOVSKY RUTH
SHALEV ZALMAN
SHARON SUSAN
SHEER LES AND TSIPPY
SHER JACK AND SALLY
SHULL ESTHER
SILBERMAN EDA
SILBERT ROSEMARY
SILVER PAMELA
SILVER ROSLYN
SMITH SELWYN
STARKOWITZ HILARY
TOLKIN – BRIDGE
TOLKIN ALEX
TOLLMAN MOIRA
TOUBE LORNA
TREGER PHYLLIS
UNA YITSCHAK AND RENATA
UPITER MAURICE & ROSE
WEDNESDAY BRIDGE GAME
WEINBERG WARREN
WEINER MOTTI
WEISBERG ELISSA
WEISS MARCELLE
WELTMAN BELINDA
WENDE HANNAH
WENDE LES AND HANNAH
WILK GEORGE & MAVIS
WISNOVITZ MEIR
WOLFF MICHELLE & MARTIN
WOLFFE-DAVID HENRIETTA
WOLMAN ALLAN
WOLMAN HAYLEY
WOLMAN VIVIENNE
WOLPERT LEON & MARY
ZABOW DEBBIE & PHILIP
ZETLER SHEILA
ZION MONTY
ZIV-EL JACK & PRISCILLA
ZODICK MERKEL

We would also like to thank all those who generously donated parcels of treats for the soldiers. Your goods were transported by Table-to-Table to the IDF in the North and the South.

quite amazing," said **Telfed Vice Chair Annette Milliner**, who oversaw the phoning of the seniors, "was their stoic resilience. In and out of bomb shelters each day, they were nevertheless defiant when we phoned them. Most of them displayed more of a concern for their children and grandchildren in the army than for themselves."

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As the ground operations moved into high gear, and many items were needed by our soldiers in the north, Telfed moved into high gear. **Vice Chair Hilary Kaplan** launched a fundraising campaign and in 10 days, her team "of wonderful volunteers" raised some NIS 160,000 from South Africans in Israel and abroad. (See list) "With the funds collected, we purchased items requested by the army and together with Table-to-Table, packed the stuff at their warehouse in Raanana and loaded it onto army trucks," explains Hilary. "Our involvement began during the first days of the war when Table-to-Table approached, Janine Gelley for food parcels to be sent to our soldiers on our northern border. The response was fantastic and on any given day, the Telfed office looked like a local supermarket!"

continued on next page

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NEW ARRIVALS

SOLIDARITY MISSION

A delegation of South Africa's Jewish leadership, headed by **Chief Rabbi Dr. Warren Goldstein** arrived in Israel during the war. (See also Cover Story) Telfed hosted a lunch in Jerusalem, where **Telfed Chairman, Itz Kalmanowitz** and **Vice Chair Hilary Kaplan** addressed the gathering together with Southern African residents from the north, who spoke about their personal experiences 'under fire'.

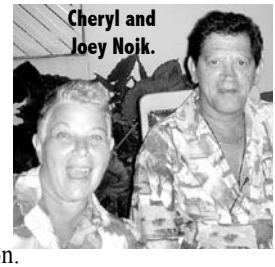
TELFED ON-LINE UPDATE

Telfed's "online" presence reached a new peak recently when it published its 200th email newsletter and its bi-weekly audience reached close to 3,000 addressees. "The website and e-newsletter are reaching more and more people in Israel and abroad," says **Dave Bloom**, **Editor of Telfed Online** (www.telfed.org.il). "The recent appeals for food parcels to residents in the north and donations to the soldiers in the Lebanese war were quickly and effectively launched via the Telfed Online newsletter. The positive response showed how well this medium works," says Dave.

New developments on the website include a professional Network section where Southern Africans can list their professions and disciplines and a section for crafters to market and advertise their wares. •

JOHANNESBURG

Hartsman Ralph (*Retired*) and Emily (*Retired*)
Nathanson, Stanley
Onay, Talia (*Student*)
Klein, Alan (*Retired*)
Shull, Julian Yehuda (*Rabbi*)
Drutman, Queenie (*Retired*)
Levin, Michelle
Marx, Jonathan
Krawitz, Ronen
Glick, Jason, Hayley and Alon.
Brink, Tim, Lisa, Rachel and Samuel.
Galgut, Jackie (*Social Worker*), Gabriella, Guy Daniella and Ari.
Ramage, Susan (*Manager*)
Wise, Stephen (*Diamond Dealer*)
Morrison, Diane (*Lawyer*)
Greenburg, Julia (*Designer*)
Gluck, Gregory
Nathanson, Joseph
Brodie, Stanley (*Manager*)
Grodzicki, Sara
Woodward, Anthony, Brenda and Kaeleigh.
Bailey, Adrian (*Director*) and Limor (*Interior Designer*)
Alpert, Herschel (*Lawyer*), Andrea, and Nehama.
Hasson, Rina


Cheryl and Joey Nojk.

Stacey Berold

CAPE TOWN

Berold, Stacey
Gersh, Beulah (*Retired*)
Keren, Sara.
Johnstone, Alistair (*Accountant*) and Rebecca (*Comp. Programmer*)
Kupowtiz, Gavin (*Cosmetician*), Vanessa (*Estate Agent*) and Adam

Michael and Dina Marshak

DURBAN

Kassuto, Ronen (*Business Management*), Adelle (*Social Worker*), Avi, Eitan and Chantelle.
Peer, Ofer, Karen, Daniel and Alexa.

THE SPIRIT OF BETH PROTEA

The advent of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur is a time for retrospection and the giving of thanks. Beth Protea would like to warmly thank their residents, staff and especially their volunteers who together fulfil the "spirit" of a community project.

How many of you are really aware of some of the ongoing volunteering activities within the walls of this amazing facility. Did you know that…

- Herzliya pensioners who lack means for membership to a country club, can enjoy a weekly swim in our pool,
- A group of young mothers with a free morning to spare gladly spend it volunteering and participate in a variety of activities with our residents playing cards, scrabble or various arts and crafts,
- A number of doctors and dentists tirelessly donate their time to provide quality care,
- Independent residents willingly help with feeding and reading or just giving of their time to residents in the nursing unit,
- On Fridays, the wonderful aroma of freshly baked biscuits fills the air from residents in the nursing unit who are busily preparing tasty treats for Shabbat,
- A group of residents in the nursing wing help with the gardening to keep the surrounding area beautiful,
- The local street cleaners have daily access to our lobby in order to fill their water bottles,
- Many outsiders celebrate a bar-mitzvah or Shabbat hatan in our synagogue,
- And more recently, Beth Protea opened its doors to families from the North to give them a safe haven away from the falling katyusha rockets.

The Beth Protea bug bites all those who happen to walk through our doors – the feeling of home, the warmth, the need to assist, the joy of belonging to a caring family – this is the "spirit" of Beth Protea.

In the current troubled times, we stand strong, we stand united and we stand proud, we make a difference and hope we always will. If only there were more people in this world with the spirit of giving, this world would be a much better place.

MAY THE NEW YEAR BE FILLED WITH PEACE FOR US ALL

Lyn Bach , Director of Public Relations & Fund Raising, 3rd from the left together with Volunteers Ruth & Jack Trappler & Tineke Appleton.

BETH PROTEA

The Pride of Israel's Southern African Community

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