



Top Row (L-R): Shneur Zalman Ossowiecki (Shliach), Levi Brown, Dovid Goldenberg, Chaim Lever, Shimon Dubinsky (Shliach), Chaim Pinczower, Osher Dyce, Yosef Aron, Yakov Carlebach (Dorm Counsellor), Avrohom Engel (Shliach), Moshe Joseph, Shneur Zalman Plotke, Levi Kehaty, Menashe Segman, Yehoshua Kastel, Bentzi Weiss, Eli Wajsbort, Yisroel Piha (Dorm Counsellor).

Second Row (L-R): Mendy Chriqui, Levi Rosenbaum, Chaim Lisbon, Shloimi Gross, Moishe Procel, Menachem Straiton, Eli Einbinder, Levi Gutnick, Ari Werdiger, Yisroel Ohana (Shliach), Dovi Straiton, Mendy Nutovics, Mordechai Gutnick, Aron Niasoff, Hirschel Gourarie (Shliach), Mendi Rosenbaum, Ephraim Block.

Third Row (L-R): Mendy Duchman, Moshe Sabbah, Mendy Mochkin, Sholom Meyer, Hirshi Gutnick, Yossi Moshel, Avi Bart, Mendy Begun (Shliach), Eli Duban, Moshe Backman (Shliach), Shmuel Lipskier (Shliach), Aron Masinter, Yossi Krinsky, Yisroel Adelst, Yosef Yitzchok Lipskier, Shneur Zalman Shusterman, Levi Liberow (Shliach).

Front Row (L-R): Mendy Lieberman (Shliach), Yossi Gutnick, Rabbi S Goldzweig (Meishiv), Rabbi Y Schneier (Mashpia), Rabbi M Szmerling (Maggid Shiur), Rabbi SB Engel (Mashgiach), Rabbi Y Winner (Mashpia), Rabbi B Cohen (Rosh Yeshivah), Rabbi S Lesches (Maggid Shiur), Mr A Procel (Executive Director), Mr M Joseph (General Manager), Herman Miller (Chef), Yankel Hirsch, Mendy Bortunk, Mendy Polter (Shliach), Yossi Chriqui.

Absent: Mendy Jedwab, Zuzz Rapp, Shmuel Slonim (Shliach), Shneur Zalman Tauby, Shneur Zalman Teleshevsky, Mendy Ulman.



The "L'Chaim Weekly" is a weekly newsletter published in the USA by the Lubavitch Youth Organization of Brooklyn, New York. It has a readership base numbering in the tens of thousands, and is possibly the most-read Chabad weekly publication world-wide. The success of "L'Chaim Weekly" spawned the proliferation of other similar publications internationally, including Australia's own "Lampighter Weekly", published by the Chabad House of Caulfield in conjunction with the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand.

Recently, "L'Chaim Weekly" picked up on several articles published in "The YG Connection", and reprinted them (with permission) in several issues (1209, 1215, 1216). We are grateful for this opportunity to have a positive global impact, and we look forward to more of the same in the future.

As the year 5772 draws to its close, we thank our second-year Shluchim for their tireless efforts on behalf of the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand, and wish them much success in all of their future endeavours:

**Mendy Begun • Shimon Dubinsky • Hirschel Gourarie
Levi Liberow • Shmuel Lipskier • Mendel Polter**



We wish our first-year Shluchim much continued success in their Shlichus next year:

**Moshe Backman • Avrohom Engel • Mendy Lieberman
Israel Ohana • Shneur Ossowiecki • Shmuel Slonim**



The YG Connection

The Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ Newsletter

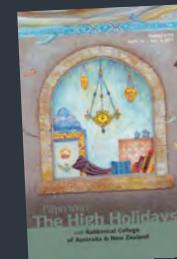
ISSUE
10

Rosh Hashanah 5773
16 September 2012

In this Issue:

Torah Fusion
Torah and Technology
Mivtzoyim Dinner
Annual Shabbaton
Annual Photo
Global Impact
Shluchim Thank-You

Tishrei Guide



The Rabbinical College has once again published and distributed the latest version of the "Tishrei Guide," to educate and assist members of the community with their Holiday observance. It may be viewed and downloaded via our website.

Heoros

"Heoros Hatmimim" is a periodical published by the Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ, containing Torah thoughts and insights. See the "Heoros" page, under the "Students" section of our website.

All submissions (both in Hebrew and English) may be emailed to heoros@rabbinicalcollege.edu.au.

Our Website

The Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ Website is being constantly updated.

Visit us at:
RabbinicalCollege.edu.au

Advertising

To advertise in the YG Connection, the annual diary, or on our website, please contact us at admin@rabbinicalcollege.edu.au.



Talmud

This past semester, *Iyun* (in-depth Talmud) studies at the Rabbinical College focussed on the third chapter of Tractate *Kiddushin*. This chapter addresses a number of important legal issues, such as if an agent breached his agreement with the sender, the ethical propriety of acquiring something that another is actively seeking to obtain, and the rules governing the legalities of all stipulations in Torah Law.



Girsa (Talmud survey) studies varied, with some students focussing on the laws of blessings discussed in Tractate *Brachos*, and other students studying the layout of the *Beis Hamikdash* and its divine service, as described in Tractate *Tomid*. Yet another group devoted themselves to mastering significant portions of Tractate *Kiddushin* by heart, with a combined total well over one-hundred *Blatt* (folios).

Chassidus

The daily morning Chassidus studies included a series of Ma'amarim (Chassidic discourses) focusing on prayer. Our sages tell us that our forefather Yakov's dream about a ladder "standing on the ground and reaching into the heavens" symbolizes prayer. In Kabbalistic thought, Yakov's ladder has four rungs. Chassidic teaching identifies the four stages of the morning Shacharis prayer.

Chassidus night studies focussed on the topic of obstacles and tribulations; how to overcome them, and indeed, grow from them.

Yom Tov

One of the basics tenets of Chassidus is that an inspiring "Yom-Tov" (Jewish Holiday) is a product of diligent preparation. This is especially so with the advent of the month of Tishrei, and the special days of Rosh-Hashana, Yom-Kippur, Sukkos and Simchas-Torah.

An important cornerstone of these preparations is the study of Shulchan-Aruch, and the students devoted themselves to learning the Halachos (laws) of these festive days.

Additionally, a special "Seder Sichos" curriculum was arranged, delving into the inner dimension of these festivals.

A special highlight this year was a series of innovative and inspiring Skype videoconferences, led by internationally renowned rabbis and speakers. They addressed the students about the significance of the High-Holidays, and shared some personal reflections dating back from the times when they celebrated these special days with the Rebbe. They also shared some of their experiences as emissaries of the Rebbe at their respective locations around the globe.

Special thanks to Rabbi Yosef Kantor (Bangkok, Thailand) who addressed the students about Rosh-Hashana, Rabbi Shmuel Lew (London, England) who spoke about Yom-Kippur, Rabbi Michael Danow (Leeds, England) who focussed on Sukkos, and Rabbi Shaul Wilhelm (Oslo, Norway) who spoke about Simchas Torah.



TORAH AND TECHNOLOGY

The Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand is internationally renowned among mainstream Lubavitch Yeshivos for streaming Shiurim according to learning ability, and not according to age. This model has proven to be incredibly successful, with four levels currently provided separately for Nigleh and Chassidus.

Learning Gemoro requires fluency in a number of different areas, such as reading each Aramaic word with the correct Neku-dos, translating the Gemoro's words precisely and understanding the nuanced meanings of its cryptic phrases, punctuating the Gemoro correctly, grasping the intent and the flow of the Sugya, and exploring its deeper layers of interpretation. Focussing on all of these tasks at once is a challenge.

Recently, the Rabbinical College embarked on a new initiative to encourage and assist its Bochorim to further develop each of these skills, through the integration of iPads into the existing learning routine observed in Tomchei-Temimim Yeshivos. The iPads were configured within an internal network in a manner that

obviates security and content-access concerns, while incorporating Google Apps for Education and other solutions.

The iPads, which belong to the Yeshivah, are kept by the Hanholo and made available to the students of Shiur Beis, for note-taking. The notes are automatically copied in real-time to a central server location, where they are accessed by the Maggid Shiur for assessment and correction. The notes are also automatically shared with any parent who opts in.

The students are also given the iPads for one hour during the afternoon revision of Shiur. During that time, the Bochorim make a daily audio recording of the Gemoro they learned, for assessment by the Maggid Shiur. These audio files are also automatically copied to the server, where they are accessible to the parents.

Technology integration into the learning environment is a relatively novel idea with in the Lubavitch Yeshivah-Gedolah system. The opportunity to employ it has produced tangibly good results, and enhanced parent involvement. The iPads augment quality individual interaction between Maggid Shiur and the Bochorim, at a level which was previously inconceivable. The Bochorim are very enthusiastic about the merger of millennia-old Gemoro study with the power of modern mobile technology.



Each Friday afternoon, students of the Rabbinical College of Australia take part in "Mitzvot", visiting workplaces, shopping centres and offices to share a word of Torah, and to encourage their fellow Jews to fulfil an extra Mitzvah. Some students also visit patients in area hospitals and homes, offering a word of encouragement and sympathy in their time of distress.

At a recent dinner (3 Av – 22 July), over fifty people regularly visited on Mitzvot volunteers. The warm atmosphere was palpable in the hall as everyone began arriving and sharing their welcomes.

Program highlights included Yeshivah Gedolah student Avi Bart sharing some personal Mitzvot experiences, and Stan Gordon speaking of his warm connection with Chabad and his thanks to all the boys who visited him each Friday over the years.

Rabbi Yaakov Glasman, a former student of the Rabbinical College, current rabbi of St Kilda Hebrew Congregation and president of the Rabbinical Council of Victoria, captivated the audience as he shared the special impact the Yeshivah Gedolah students have on the members of his congregation.

Mitzvot coordinators Shmuel Lipskier and Mendel Polter presented each Mitzvot volunteer with a certificate and special leather Tefillin Bag as a token of appreciation, and Chabad-Youth director Rabbi Moshe Kahn encouraged each and every person in the crowd to enhance their Mitzvah observance.

The evening concluded with desserts, a special video presentation, and the distribution of a special souvenir journal.



Shabbaton - Winter 5772

In the beginning of Sivan (June), students of the Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ enjoyed a mid-winter Shabbaton, arranged by the Shluchim.

The Shabbaton took place at Log Cabin Camp, a rustic bush resort located at scenic Creswick, a two hour drive from Melbourne.

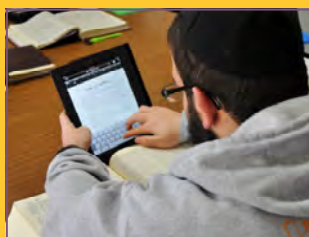
The Bochorim enjoyed some recreation when they arrived at the campsite, after which they made their final Shabbos preparations. Friday night began with Mincha and a moving Seder Niggunim, which was followed by a study session and a very lively Kabbolas Shabbos. The Bochorim shared stories and words of Torah around the Shabbos table. Before long, the Shabbos meal turned into one of YG's legendary "Hiskashrus" Farbrengens that went on late into the night.

Despite the late night, Shabbos morning began bright and early with a refreshing Mikvah dip in the ice-cold lake, followed by pastries and Chassidus by the fireside. The davening was truly introspective, taking nearly four hours. One of the highlights was the Aliyos auction, in which good resolutions were tendered as bids.

The Shabbos meal included a number of inspiring personal stories, and much singing. It was followed with a "Farbrengen at the Fireplace". After a short break for some fresh air, Shabbos concluded with Mincha, Seder Niggunim and Maariv.

At the Melave Malka banquet, the Bochorim viewed a special video collage of the current year at YG. The Bochorim then boarded the bus for the ride back to Melbourne – refreshed and reinvigorated by the inspirational Shabbaton.

A special thanks to all who made this project possible, including the Shluchim for arranging and coordinating the Shabbaton, the team of Bochorim who helped make the Shabbaton the success that it was, and Mr Mordechai Joseph for overseeing the event.



During the past several months, the Rabbinical College has been privileged to host a number of Farbrengens led by internationally renowned rabbis, leaders and lecturers, including: Rabbi Shea Hecht, chief-rabbi of Eilat, Rabbi YY Jacobson, editor-in-chief of the largest Yiddish-English weekly The Algemeiner Journal and director of TheYeshivah.net, and Rabbi Chaim Miller, the chief-editor of the Gutnick Chumash.

