

FORMER CHIEF RABBI VISIT



On his recent visit to Melbourne, Rabbi Shlomo Amar (former Sephardi Chief Rabbi of Israel) visited the Rabbinical College. Arriving just before the conclusion of Friday's study session, he addressed the student body.

The Shluchim presented Rabbi Amar with a collection of Chidushei Torah thoughts published by Yeshivah-Gedolah over the course of the current year.



5774—2014 GROUP PHOTO



Top Row (L-R): Chaim Simon, Sholom Ber Sufrin, Kasriel Kay, Eli Eckstein, Mendel Shuchat (Shliach), Isaac Hilel (Shliach), Mendel Raskin (Shliach), Mendy Reicher, Mendel Harlig, Edan Hanouka, Shmuel Mendel Tenenbaum, Shlomo Stark, Chemi Lazarus, Dovi Mendelow, Yossi Gopin, Menachem Bacher, Pinchas Cyprys, Menachem Rose, Menachem Aron.

Second Row (L-R): Menachem Morozow, Yehoshua Smith, Levi Waren, Mendel Gurevitch, Mendy Krinsky, Mendel Szmerling, Chaim Groner, Shraga Telsner (Dormitory Supervisor), Mendy Levitan, Yosef Kasle (Shliach), Zevi Gestetner, Mendel Jameson, Menachem Dahan, Eli Gross, Yisroel Cohen, Yoel Croitoru, Mendy Rapoport, Mendel Engel.

Third Row (L-R): Levi Naparstak, Levi Gross, Aaron Kastel, Mendel Groner, Motti Rubin (Shliach), Moshe Lerman (Shliach), Eitan Agor, Chaim Boruch Teitlebaum (Shliach), Menachem Procel, Shloimy Henenberg, Menachem Adelst, Shmulie Myers, Mendy Shpitzer (Shliach), Shneur Mangel, Mendy Spielman, Mendel Chaiton, Akiva Vallins, Mendel Hertz (Shliach).

Front Row (L-R): Zak Phillips, Eli Lowinger, Mendel Stock, Mendel Gurary (Shliach), Rabbi Y Schneier (Mashpia), 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, Osher Feldman.

Absent: Rabbi M Szmerling (Maggid Shiur), Rabbi S Goldzweig (Meishiv), Yossi Nigri (Dormitory Supervisor), Moishe Amzalak, Yehudah Epstein, Yosef Meyer.



The YG Connection

The Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ Newsletter



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YG Hagaddah

Shluchim and students of Yeshiva Gedolah recently produced a unique Hagadah Shel Pesach entitled 'Ki Yishal-cha Bincha' with notes on the Rebbe's explanations. The Hagaddah was edited by Shliach Mordechai Rubin.

It is currently available at:
RabbinicalCollege.edu.au/Hagaddah.

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

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

RABBI COHEN - FORTY YEARS AT THE HELM

4 Menachem-Av this year marks 40 years since Rabbi Binyomin Cohen arrived in Melbourne to serve as Rosh Yeshivah of the Rabbinical College of Australia and New Zealand.

Born and raised in London, Rabbi Cohen entered Gateshead Yeshivah rather than university after completing his secondary schooling. While at Gateshead, he studied some of the Lubavitcher Rebbe's early Sichos (talks) and became attracted to Lubavitch. This led to a regular Shiur and developing relationship with the famed Chossid, Reb Mendel Futerfas.

It was not long thereafter that he went to Israel and joined the student body in the Lubavitcher Yeshivah at Kfar Chabad, under the tutelage of the widely admired and revered Mashpia, Reb Shlomo Chaim Kesselman. He then studied at the Lubavitcher Yeshivah in Brooklyn, New York, married and continued his learning for four years in Kollel, whilst at the same time teaching at Hadar Hatorah under the direction of Reb Yisroel Jacobson.

Some 42 or so years ago, Rabbi Cohen asked the Lubavitcher Rebbe for guidance as to which path his career should take, and the answer has guided him ever since. "The Rebbe told me that the more Torah, the more Brocho. That was all I needed to hear to set me on my career path," he said.

In the last 40 years, Rabbi Cohen has seen the Yeshivah grow from a handful of students to 70

students. They come not only from Melbourne and Sydney, but from all around the world.

Rabbi Cohen is known far and wide as a 'no nonsense' Rosh Yeshivah by whose schedule one can set a clock. "My adherence to time is a natural thing for me, and gives me a sense of order and stability," he says.

His adherence to order has made its mark in the international Yeshivah world. According to the college's administrator Avrohom Procel, many students seek to come to Yeshivah Gedolah because of Rabbi Cohen.

Rabbi Cohen sees himself as an educator and facilitator. Despite giving two to three Shiurim every day, including high-level Shiurim to Shiur Alef and to the Shluchim, he devotes some of his time each day to teaching and examining students on an individual basis as well. He has intentionally steered clear of other rabbinic roles and does not answer halachic questions.

Rabbi Cohen believes that his work at the Yeshivah has been enhanced because he had the privilege of working with and learning from the Yeshivah's founder, Reb Zalman Serebryanski.

Yeshivah Gedolah is indebted to Rabbi Cohen for his dedicated efforts and tireless devotion as Rosh Yeshivah over the past 40 years and his major contribution towards its success. We wish him good health and continued success in his work for many more years to come.



Rabbi Groner z"l addresses Kabbalas Panim welcoming Rabbi Cohen to Melbourne.

Recent months have seen a number of "Kinusim" (Torah-gatherings), conducted at Yeshivah Gedolah.

Kinus 28 Nissan



A Kinus was organized in honour of 28 Nissan, the anniversary of the day when the Rebbe stated that he has done all he can to bring Moshiach, and he is now handing the task over to the Chassidim. Despite the event occurring during the Pesach break, there were over 60 Bo-churim in attendance, including students from Yeshivah College, Mesivtah, Yeshivah Gedolah, and alumni.

Speakers included Rabbi Yaakov Winner (Mashpia – Yeshivah Gedolah), Rabbi Yossi Gordon (Yeshivah Centre) and Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Groner (Head Shliach). The Kinus lasted late into the night, and inspired many Bochorim to increase their good deeds to hasten the coming of Moshiach.

Kinus Hashluchim



Ever since the Rebbe sent Shluchim to Sydney in 5746 (1986), the Shluchim from Melbourne and Sydney have convened on an annual basis. This year was no different, with Shluchim from seven Chabad institutions Australia-wide participating in a Kinus, with the purpose of strengthening each other for the future months of Shlichus ahead.

The Kinus took place in Melbourne, shortly before Shavuot. The program opened on a Thursday evening with a practical and thought-provoking farbrengen led by alumnus Rabbi Elisha Greenbaum (Moorabbin Hebrew Congregation). Rabbi Greenbaum shared some of his personal experiences as a rabbi, and stressed to the Shluchim their incred-

ible privilege and responsibility as role models for the students and community.

On Friday morning, the Shluchim enjoyed a light breakfast at the Chabad House of Caulfield. Rabbi Shmuel Lesches (Maggid Shiur - Yeshivah Gedolah) expanded on various matters relating to education. Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Groner delivered a talk about the International Date Line in Halacha, a subject especially pertinent to trans-Pacific travel.

Shabbos was spent in East Bentleigh together with Rabbi Mendel Raskin and his congregation. The finale of the Kinus was a Melaveh Malkah led by Rabbi Motel Krasnjansky (Ohr Chadash), who enthralled the Shluchim with captivating stories expressing the message of a Shliach's responsibility.

Kinus Torah



Shortly after Shavuot, the Rabbinical College hosted its annual communal Kinus Torah. The Kinus was convened as per the Rebbe's directive that a Kinus Torah be held on, or immediately after, each Yom Tov. The event featured a large and diverse crowd, who thoroughly enjoyed the wide variety of subjects. Speakers included Rabbi Mottel Krasnjanski, Rabbi Binyomin Cohen (Rosh Yeshivah), Rabbi Zvi Telsner (Yeshivah Centre), Rabbi Yaakov Barber (South Caulfield Hebrew Congregation) and Rabbi Shea Hecht. These Rabbonim were followed by students Menachem Sufrin (Mesivtah), Yaakov Schachna (Yeshivah College VCE) and Mendel Groner (Yeshivah-Gedolah), who clearly and succinctly elaborated on various ideas relating to their studies.



LAG B'OMER

Thousands of people took part in the Lag B'omer Parade and Fair organized by Chabad Youth, celebrating a day of Jewish unity and pride.

The students of the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand were involved in many facets of the event, most notably the construction of a large float. The many energetic and exciting clowns were none other than our very own students.

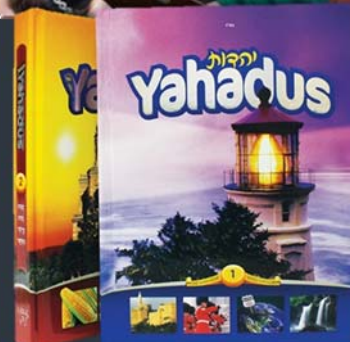
Upon the parade's completion, the festivities continued with a fair at Alexandra Street. Many students spent this time reaching out to their fellow Jews, and inviting men to don Tefillin.

Despite having already put in a full day's effort, the students all attended a special Farbrengen arranged by Yeshivah Gedolah. The Farbrengen was led by Rabbi Ceitlin, himself a former Shliach at Yeshivah Gedolah, and currently the director of several Chabad-Lubavitch institutions in Tzfat (Safed - Israel).



MISHMOR & THE INTERNATIONAL CHIDON

Every Thursday night (7:30-8:30pm), school boys aged 8-13 attend Mishmor at the Rabbinical College. In recent months, Mishmor participated in the Chidon Sefer Hamitzvos; an international tournament of the 613 Mitzvos, culminating in a live game show finals in New York. After months of learning and being tested on the "Yahadus" curriculum, school student Mendel Greenbaum was crowned Melbourne's winning finalist, and travelled to New York as Melbourne's representative to the Chidon.



SHABBATON



On Shabbos Shlach (June 13-14), students of the Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ enjoyed the annual mid-winter Shabbaton, arranged by Yeshivah Gedolah. 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 Nigunim, which was followed by Seder Sichos and a very lively Kabbalas Shabbos. The Bochorim shared stories and Divrei 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, past 2:30 in the morning.

Despite the late night, Shabbos morning began bright and early with a refreshing Mikvah dip in the ice-cold lake, followed by pastries and a packed Shiur Chassidus by the fireside. One of the highlights of davening was the Aliyos auction, in which Hachlotos (good resolutions) were tendered as bids.

The Shabbos meal and Farbrengen was interlaced with inspired singing, and went all the way to Mincha. Shabbos concluded with a Seder Nigunim, Maariv and Havdalah.

At the Melave Malka banquet, the Bochorim viewed a special video collage of the current year at YG. There was also a bit of time for a grand game of Gaga before the Bochorim then boarded the bus for the ride back to Melbourne – refreshed and reinvigorated by the inspirational Shabbaton.

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 Gashmius and chaperoning the event.

