



The YG Connection

The Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ Newsletter



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up to four hours each way, reaching over forty synagogues.
Coordinator: Mendel Polter.

Student Programs: Judaism is not just a learning experience; it is a way of life! The Shluchim conduct a wide variety of activities for the benefit of the students at Rabbinical College, inspiring them with the joy of Torah and Chassidus.

1. Hiskashrus Farbrengens

A Farbrengen (Chassidic gathering) is an ideal time for participants to inspire each other in the spirit of true Ahavas Yisroel (love for one's fellow Jew). Some of the Farbrengens at Rabbinical College are led by a staff member, and have come to be known as "official Farbrengens". However, many Farbrengens are led by the Shluchim, and are known as "Hiskashrus Farbrengens". Being that the Shluchim develop close ties with many students, these Farbrengens are the perfect opportunity for the Shluchim to inspire the students to study Torah diligently, to fulfil Mitzvos in the best possible manner, to improve their character-traits, to spread Judaism to others, and to spur them on to new heights.

2. Preparation Campaigns

A basic tenet of Chassidus is that an inspiring "Yom-Tov" (Jewish Holiday or special day) is a product of diligent preparation. Yom-Tov is not merely a time of celebration, but an opportunity to focus on its inner message. With this in mind, the Shluchim arrange a number of campaigns to assist students in preparing themselves suitably for these special days. These campaigns include the special days of Yud Sh'vat, Purim, Yud-Alef Nissan, Gimmel Tammuz and Tishrei.

3. Friday night at Rabbinical College

Each Friday night, Seder Nigunim is conducted at the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand. Chassidic melodies are sung; at times they are poignant, and at times exuberant. These melodies set the mood for the subsequent Chassidic discourse and Kabbolas Shabbos. The Shluchim also energize the Friday night Shabbos meal with words of Torah, stories and Nigunim.
Baal Menagen: Hirschel Gourarie.

Youth Programs: The Shluchim conduct a variety of activities to benefit the youth of the Melbourne Jewish community.

1. Mishmor

Each Thursday night (from 7:30 to 8:30), school boys aged 8-13 attend Mishmor at the Rabbinical College. The boys are divided into small groups for a half-hour study session with a Shliach. The next half-hour is devoted to a riveting story or an exciting game. Towards the end of Mishmor, the boys are quizzed about what they learned, and a video of the Rebbe is shown. Mishmor concludes with a raffle and a snack. The school boys eagerly anticipate Mishmor all week long.
Coordinator: Nochum Greenwald

2. Shabbos afternoon and Messibas Shabbos

Each Shabbos afternoon, the Shluchim daven Mincha together with high school students.

Afterwards, the Shluchim divide themselves into pairs, conducting Messibas Shabbos for a different grade of high school. The Shluchim use the opportunity to Farbreng with the students, inspiring them through story, song, discussion, fun and games. After Messibas Shabbos, the Shluchim and high school students reconvene for a beautiful Seder Nigunim in Mesivta.
Coordinator: Nochum Greenwald.

3. Overnight Camps

Chabad Youth arranges several overnight camps throughout the year. The comprehensive camp programs are designed to imbue the campers with a deep sense of pride in their Jewish heritage, through exciting activities, stories, songs, discussions, games and contests. The success of camp lies in its staff. The Shluchim serve as counsellors and learning teachers at both the summer and midwinter overnight camps, as well as Masmidim overnight camp. The Shluchim are great role models as they warmly care for each individual child, ensuring a rich and wholesome experience replete with fun, friendship and meaningful educational experiences.

4. Shabbatons

Throughout the year, the Shluchim arrange and chaperone a number of sleep-away Shabbaton retreats, primarily for high school boys. These Shabbatons are the perfect setting to celebrate Shabbos and Yiddishkeit, and to inspire all those who attend.

Outreach: The Shluchim conduct outreach activities, and the impact is felt Australia-wide.

1. Weekly Mitzvotzoyim

Every Friday afternoon, students at the College utilize a break in their studies to "hit the streets" and spread the light of Judaism to the masses, with a special emphasis on the ten-point Mitzvah campaign instituted by the Rebbe. This year, about sixty-five students participated each week, and they were joined by students of Yeshiva College. The Shluchim coordinated the "routes" and provided all necessary supplies, including Mezuzahs, charity boxes, Shabbos candles and publications.
Coordinator: Yisroel Halon.

2. Lamplighter Weekly

Lamplighter is a popular weekly newsletter published by the Chabad House of Caulfield in conjunction with the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand. The newsletter is edited and prepared by the Shluchim. Lamplighter offers a range of features to suit all tastes, from short stories to intricate insights into the weekly Torah portion. This year, Lamplighter published its 1000th issue.
Coordinator: Nochum Greenberg.

3. Chanukah Holiday Outreach

The warm glow of the Chanukah Menorah goes a long way in dispelling much spiritual darkness. To publicize the message of Chanukah, the Shluchim arranged a magnificent Menorah parade. Many community members and their families joined in spreading light and warmth. This year, the parade was preceded by a Chanukah Rally, with over 150 children in attendance. Entertainment was provided by our

very own jugglers, Nochum Greenwald and Shmuel Lipskier, who were accompanied by the Yeshiva Gedolah band, featuring Moishe Procel on the drums and Adam Finck on the keyboard.

Prior to Chanukah, as well as during Chanukah itself, our students distributed thousands of Menorah kits, and spread Chanukah joy to all segments of the wider Melbourne Jewish community.
Coordinators: Moshe Wolfovsky, Yisroel Halon.

4. Purim Holiday Outreach

The Shluchim and students of the Rabbinical College actively spread the joy of Purim by conducting Megillah readings and Purim events in a wide range of businesses, eateries, residences, hospitals, old age homes, markets, schools, childcare centres and prisons. They also assist and participate in various events conducted by synagogues, Chabad Houses and community organizations, both locally and interstate. In addition to hearing Megillah, the commandments of Purim include Mishloach Manos (gifts of food), Matanos L'evyonim (giving charity), and participating in a joyous feast. In the weeks prior to Purim, students of the Rabbinical College devoted much of their free time to preparing thousands of Mishloach Manos packages for community distribution.
Coordinators: Moshe Wolfovsky, Yisroel Halon.

5. Passover Holiday Outreach

The Shluchim coordinate the activities of Passover-Australia, with the goal of providing an authentic Passover and Jewish experience to hundreds of Jews scattered across Regional and Rural Australia. The Shluchim visit Byron Bay, Cairns, Coffs Harbour, Darwin, Fremantle, and surrounding regions. A summary of this year's activities can be viewed on our website.
Coordinator: Yehudah Zaltzman.

6. Lag B'Omer Holiday Outreach

Chabad Youth coordinates an annual Lag B'Omer Parade, saluting Jewish youth and Jewish pride. The Shluchim and students of the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand were involved in many facets of the event. They designed and built a "Mitzvah Amusement Park" theme float; they featured as the Yeshiva Gedolah Band, they trained and conducted a marching band, and were the energetic and exciting clowns at the parade. Upon the parade's completion, Shluchim and students attended the subsequent festivities at Princes Park in order to reach out to their fellow Jews.

7. Roving Rabbis

During their week-long winter break, the Shluchim visited a number of locations in order to connect with unaffiliated Jews. Mendel Polter and Nochum Greenwald travelled to Brisbane in order to assist Chabad of Brisbane. They visited over 100 Jewish people, including many Israelis who were manning the kiosks in large shopping centres. Nochum Greenberg, Moshe Arye Wovovsky and Yisroel Halon travelled to Launceston and Hobart under the auspices of Chabad of Tasmania. They met a number of Jews who had no prior contact with their Jewish heritage. Their activities included donning Tefillin, putting up Mezuzahs and Torah study. Hirschel Gourarie and Shmuel Lipskier visited Campbelltown and Parramatta, and Mendy Kesselman and Yitzchak Einstein travelled to Canberra.

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Our Website

The Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ Website may be viewed at:
RabbinicalCollege.edu.au

Lamplighter Weekly



The Rabbinical College, in conjunction with the Chabad House of Caulfield, recently published the 1000th issue of Lamplighter.

Lamplighter archives may be viewed at:
RabbinicalCollege.edu.au/Lamplighter

"Rambam 7:40" recently marked the conclusion of its seven month Rambam drive at the Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ, at a Farbrengen held on Motzei Shabbos Chai Elul.

Several years ago, the "Rambam 7:40" club was founded by Shluchim of the Yeshiva Gedolah of Melbourne, in order to encourage Yeshiva students to learn the daily quota of the Rambam's Mishneh Torah (Maimonides' compendium of Jewish law), as per the Rebbe's instructions. A daily Shiur is delivered by one of the Shluchim during the daily dinner break, at 7:40pm.

This year, "Rambam 7:40" enjoyed remarkable success, in no small part due to the vision of Dovi Lesches, a successful real estate entrepreneur based in New York City. At Dovi's insistence, "Rambam 7:40" offered first rate incentives including a weekly pizza lunch (donated in part by Zavdiel's Vegetarian Pizza & Falafel Bar), a monthly dinner catered by Daneli's Deli, weekly and monthly raffles with prizes pegged to the amount of attendees, and the year-end grand-prize: A ticket to Crown Heights, New York.

Over the course of the year, many Yeshiva Gedolah students participated and became committed to regular Rambam study. The size of the Shiur steadily increased until more than 25 Bochorim (students) were attending daily. Many Bochorim accepted upon themselves a Hachlota (commitment) to learning the daily Rambam in the future.

The Bochorim celebrated their achievements at a recent Farbrengen conducted on Motzei Shabbos Chai Elul. One of the themes of the Farbrengen was the importance of learning Rambam each and every day, even when time is scarce. Being that "Rambam 7:40" is sponsored in memory of Dovi's grandparents, Reb Moshe (ben Yishayahu) & Mrs Chana Leah (bas Yishayahu) Lesches, it was fitting that Rabbi Shmuel Lesches connected this theme with the commitment of Reb Moshe Lesches in rising at 2:45am every morning to devote several hours to Torah-study before his workday began, and the steadfastness of Mrs Chana Leah Lesches in ensuring the highest level of education for her children, even sacrificing everyday essentials in the process.

At the conclusion of the Farbrengen, a Goral (raffle) was drawn by Shliach Menachem Mendel Begun, who coordinates "Rambam 7:40" and delivers the

daily Shiur in his uniquely captivating manner. There were 53 entries in the Goral, representing the 23 Bochorim who came to the Shiur for at least one month without missing a single day. The winner of the Goral was **Menachem Mendel Rosenbaum**, who did not miss more than one day of the Rambam Shiur in the last three months!





Chassidus Shiur

At the beginning of 2011, Rabbi Yossi Schneier was appointed to the position of Mashpia (Chassidic guide and mentor), joining Rabbi Yaakov Winner in lecturing and teaching the Chassidus curriculum. With student numbers at capacity levels for the last few years, the need for an additional staff member in Chassidus was necessary.

One of the innovations introduced by Rabbi Schneier is a new methodical approach to assist the students' comprehension and analysis of Maamarim (Chassidic discourses) studied at Rabbinical College. Over the course of the year, Rabbi Schneier compiled and published a series of booklets that classify and clarify the concepts elucidated in each Ma'amar. These booklets are available online, at www.rabbinicalcollege.edu.au/Shiurim. Future booklets, both updated and new, will G-d willing be posted online as they are published.

Students complete Masechta Tomid



The students of Shiur Gimme! recently completed Masechta (tractate) Tomid during the afternoon Girs'a Seder. They began learning the Masechta in conjunction with the period of the year known as the "three weeks", and spent several weeks learning it in-depth.

Their study was highlighted by a daily multimedia presentation prepared exclusively for the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand, which has been developed and enhanced over the last six years. Being that Masechta Tomid focuses on the architecture and daily service of the Beis Hamikdash, the opportunity to employ visual multimedia technology greatly aided the students in their comprehension of the Talmud text.

Another highlight was a hands-on presentation of the internal anatomy of a sheep, knowledge of which is requisite in order to properly understand a certain section of the Gemoro (Tomid 31a). Special thanks to Rabbi Avremel Krinsky for his help.



Conclusion of Mishmor 5771



Mishmor 5771

Every Thursday night (from 7:30 to 8:30), school boys aged 8-13 attend Mishmor at the Rabbinical College. The boys are divided into small groups for a half-hour study session with a Shliach. Studies focus on the Parsha, or the various special upcoming days of the year. The next half-hour is devoted to a riveting story or an exciting game. Towards the end of Mishmor, the boys are quizzed about what they learned, and a video is shown. Mishmor concludes with a raffle and Nosh. On special occasions, Farbrengens are conducted.

The Shluchim recently concluded a very successful year of Mishmor. The boys were rewarded with a juggling show by Nochum Greenwald and Shmuel Lipskier. The boys had a great time, and are already waiting for the start of "Mishmor 5772".



As the year 5771 draws to its close, we thank our second-year Shluchim for their tireless efforts on behalf of the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand:

- Yitzchok Meir Einstein**
- Nochum Greenberg**
- Nochum Greenwald**
- Yisroel Halon**
- Mendy Kesselman**
- Moshe Wolvovsky**
- Yehudah Zaltsman**

We wish them much success in all of their future endeavours.

Roundup of Shluchim activities - 5771

We salute our Shluchim for the pivotal role they play in Yeshiva Gedolah and in the community at large. Here is a brief roundup of their activities this year.

Torah: The Rebbe constantly emphasized that the primary preoccupation of the Shluchim is the learning and dissemination of Torah. The Shluchim achieve this in a variety of ways.

1. Studying and mentoring at the College

The Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ is famous for the individual attention it affords each of its students, and the methodical structure of its curriculum. The Shluchim play a large role in the success of our program, and they allocate much of their day to assisting the student body with their studies. In addition, the Shluchim offer a variety of extra-curricular Shiurim, including a daily Rambam Shiur, a bi-weekly Seder Sichos program, and a weekly Moshiach Shiur. All of the above is in addition to the advanced personal studies of the Shluchim, the highlight of which is a weekly pilpul shiur delivered by the Rosh Yeshiva, Rabbi B Cohen, specifically for them.

Rambam Shiur coordinator: Mendy Begun.
Seder Sichos coordinator: Shmuel Lipskier.
Moshiach Shiur coordinator: Shimon Dubinsky.

five minute sessions are an enjoyable weekly highlight for both the Shluchim as well as the high school students.

Coordinator: Mendy Kesselman.

4. Torah publications

"Heoros Hatmimim V'Anash" is a compilation of Torah insights authored by students, Shluchim and staff of Yeshiva Gedolah, as well as by members of the general community. The publication of Heoros inspires the students to utilize their academic talents and abilities to their fullest. Heoros is compiled, edited and published by the Shluchim. This year, six issues were published, bringing the total number of issues to 119.

Coordinators: Levi Liberow, Mendel Polter.

"Va'ad L'hafotzas Sichos" is the publishing arm of the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand, and is managed by the Shluchim. Each week, several thousand copies of a wide variety of Torah publications are printed and distributed to many Shules in Melbourne.

Coordinator: Yitzchok Meir Einstein.

"Chayenu" is an international weekly Torah magazine for the English speaking, with special emphasis on the daily study schedules of Rambam, Chitas and Hayom Yom. The Shluchim ensure that it is available to every student at the College.

Coordinator: Nochum Greenberg.

5. Torah Gatherings

This year, the Shluchim coordinated a number of special Torah gatherings, including:

Siyum Harambam - the annual Torah gathering marking the completion of the annual cycle of Rambam study.

Tikun Leil Shavuos - an all-night study session conducted on the first night of Shavuos.

Kinus Torah - the annual community Torah event conducted in association with the festival of Shavuos.

Kinus Hashluchim - the annual convention of student Shluchim of Melbourne and Sydney.

6. Library

Torah Lending Library was founded by previous groups of Shluchim. The library houses a large collection of Jewish English-language books, as well as a digitized audio collection. The library is very popular with our students, and is used by members of the general community. The library also contains a collection of Torah videos, which are occasionally screened to the student body.

Coordinator: Hirschel Gourarie.

7. Tahalucha

Tahalucha is a campaign created by the Rebbe, which sees Chabad representatives visiting community synagogues on the Jewish festivals of Pesach, Shavuos and Sukkos. These representatives share inspiring words of Torah and Chassidus, and celebrate the Yom Tov joy with spirited song and dance. In Melbourne, Tahalucha is coordinated by the Shluchim, with delegates walking



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

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

2. Shiurim with school students

In addition to learning with students of the college, the Shluchim forge many learning partnerships with primary, secondary and tertiary students, as well as laymen and businessmen. During the daily breaks in the College schedule, the study hall and libraries are filled with the sounds of learning. The Shluchim are more than happy to focus on any aspect of Jewish study, and successfully build strong ties with many of their partners.

Coordinator: Mendy Kesselman.

3. Friday morning learning with high school

Each Friday morning, the Shluchim visit Yeshiva College in order to learn with year 11 and 12 VCE students. The classes are divided into small groups, and the high school boys enjoy the unique opportunity to learn through discussion. These forty-