

Edition 005  
July 2017

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# TIMES



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# Welcome to ARK Centre



ARK Centre is a Modern Orthodox Jewish Community Centre, with a synagogue in the middle of it both physically and metaphorically. Everything we do centres around our three core principals of Spirituality, Wellbeing and Tikkun Olam. Not to mention our very important fourth principal – great Kosher food!

ARK Centre was founded over seven years ago. The beginnings were certainly humble, initially renting a classroom at Bialik College for Shabbat services and later renting the Hall. It wasn't long before the word spread and demand meant we moved to an old house in East Hawthorn where services

were run, dinners held and an inclusive, warm atmosphere was borne; one that lives on in all we do today.

For the past three years we have enjoyed the enormous pleasure of having our own dedicated premises in Cato Street, East Hawthorn. In Cato St. we have built, and continue to grow, a hub for our members and friends to connect – to their heritage, with each other and with themselves.



Many people who attend our services would possibly not go to a synagogue if not for the atmosphere at ARK Centre. Here, everyone is welcome. Welcome to enjoy, to learn, and in line with a fundamental precept of Judaism – to ask questions. Children especially feel very at home, not always quietly, and are part of the rich tapestry of experience



at ARK Centre. Much of what we strive to provide is a place where each and every person, no matter their age or reason for being here, can feel they belong in this place that provides religious, spiritual, emotional and gastronomic nourishment.

Rabbi Shneur and the team provide a warm, inclusive environment where people can come to services on Shabbat and Yom Tov, celebrate milestones such as Bar and Bat Mitzvot, weddings, birthday parties and many others. And more than that, they participate in events, programs and activities that go beyond the traditional Jewish experience providing avenues to gather, formally and informally, to engage, be involved, learn, sing, enjoy, dance, eat and even be challenged through discussion and debate.



# From the Rabbi's Desk



Dear friends,

It is amazing that again we are at the point in the Jewish year where everything ramps up a notch. Shules sell memberships; annual publications are produced. High Holyday timetables of shule services appear in letterboxes and the Jewish News.

Why would an overwhelmingly non-observant Jewish community place such sanctity on this period of the High Holydays? And do so with their emotions, their time, and their sanity in the midst of never ending services.

I believe it is because Yom Kippur represents a universal idea that is the greatest contribution Judaism offers humanity, on par with the concept that all humans are created equal in the image of God. I truly believe that 'Even if He only gave us Yom Kippur, Dayeinu!' should be inserted at the beginning of that song.

The idea of course is Forgiveness.

According to our tradition, Yom Kippur is the day God forgave the Jewish People for the sin of the Golden Calf. But the story is, on face value alone, bewildering indeed. The story goes, that after they heard the Ten Commandments from God, the people told Moshe they couldn't handle the intensity of the experience of God communicating with them directly. Instead he should go up the mountain to hear it from God and then transmit it to them.

God agreed and Moshe was to spend 40 days and nights receiving the Torah from God. By the time Day 40 came and Moshe was nowhere in sight, the people quickly lost hope of ever seeing their leader again and felt the need to create a new god to worship, the Golden Calf.

God was incensed and vowed to annihilate the entire Jewish People. He promised Moshe He would create a new one out of Moshe's progeny. Moshe then used a variety of arguments to convince God

to restrain Himself. Firstly he argued, "You promised the forefathers to make them a big nation. Besides, what will the rest of the world think of You! They will say, you took a sorry nation out of slavery only to slaughter them in the desert." Finally he threatened God that if He went ahead with the plan, Moshe would withdraw his support for God's book, the Torah. He actually told God that he wanted his name erased from the Torah if God followed through with His threat.

God calmed down and Moshe went down the mountain. When he saw the people merrily engaging in wild parties, sex and depravity, he threw the tablets down and they shattered. To cut a long story short, he urged the people to ask for forgiveness and spent another 40 days with God carving out new tablets, which, according to tradition, he delivered to the people on Yom Kippur. God told Moshe that He forgave the people but He would never let them forget this act of betrayal.

There are so many questions begging to be asked about this, but the elephant in the room is God's anger and threat. How is it possible that God, who showed such compassion for a suffering



people only a few months before by using every trick against the Egyptians to force them to let the people go, could turn on them so harshly?

And for what? They made an idol! Ok, it is true that they heard the first two Commandments only 40 days before when God explicitly forbade them from such creations. But it is a victimless crime! It's not like they turned into a bunch of starving animals,

cannibalising one another. They merely went into the default religious practise they had followed in Egypt for several hundred years that involved idols. God may have been understandably frustrated by their lack of spiritual growth. But where was the compassion to recognise that they were a severely traumatised people, the extent of which He had clearly miscalculated? Baffling indeed. It's almost like God suffered from short-term memory loss. He saved

them from immense brutality only to forget it a few months later.

The story suggests that Moshe is greater than God. God is emotionally unstable – Moshe is the rock!

The arguments Moshe employed – “you promised”, “what will the nations of the world say”, and the counter threat to delete himself from the Book – all seem to be missing the point. The outcry should simply be, “it's wrong! It's unjust! You can't blame them!”

Even when God did forgive them, He told Moshe He would always remind them of this sin. To me that seems like someone who hasn't really forgiven but whose arm was twisted and said He did. Forgiveness means you let go. The promise to hold onto it indefinitely is the opposite.

For all these reasons and more, the story we are usually told cannot be right. Instead, I believe it is a story designed to articulate the very heart of what forgiveness is and why we should forgive.

To arrive at forgiveness though, God and Moshe must first role-play the usual reactions we would expect under those circumstances.

Tradition describes the sin of the Golden Calf as the ultimate betrayal akin to having an affair right after the Chuppah ceremony. God is incensed. “How could they!? I want to destroy everything we've got going between us.”

Moshe is the voice of reason. Firstly he reminds God of

the time He was in love, which made Him promise the forefathers a mighty nation would come out of them. He then urges God to view this in the larger context. When we are angry, we lose perspective. When we are incensed, our point of view is as narrow as a laser beam with equally destructive capabilities.

A good way to regain perspective is to view the history until that point, from the perspective of an outsider. Moshe is therefore reminding God of the people's suffering and the compassion God claimed He felt towards them which justified the enormous effort to free them. But from an objective point of view, if You want to destroy them for their betrayal You neither understand their suffering, nor are fair dinkum about Your motivation of compassion.

God is 'persuaded' to forgive but insists on reminding the people of this affair – not to punish them or to always ruin

the vibe between them, but as a most positive instruction. We all have our little closet full of past relationships gone terribly sour. At the heart of all these damaged relationships lies an outraged feeling 'how could they!?'

The truth however is that those feelings usually make us hypocrites. When we see it from an outside perspective we realise that all humans are emotionally frail and spiritually challenged, including ourselves. And so, instead of shining a beam of light on this transgression, we see it in the larger framework of human shortcoming. Since we are objectively in the same boat, to lose our head with anger is entirely unjustified and a double standard since 'there is no righteous person on earth who commits no sin'.

The central message of Yom Kippur then is that we must forgive. Once upon a time the idea of forgiveness simply did not exist. Think of tribalism and feuding families in the middle ages, when tit for tat killing of members of another clan was the norm and very often lasted many generations with the memory of the original provocation utterly lost. With Yom Kippur we are also reminded about an original injustice, not to exact revenge but rather to remind us of the fact that we too are capable of gross acts of betrayal.

We've heard the theme of forgiveness mentioned so many times without really thinking about it we've become totally desensitised



to its incredible power to stimulate spiritual awakening and thereby promote human happiness. Yom Kippur is about forgiveness. The fact that it can be attained at all is itself a revelation. The accompanying lesson in psychology is the icing on the cake.

May we all find the strength to let go of our grievances, be open, inclusive and welcoming, not prejudiced, divisive and dismissive.

**Shanah Tova,  
Rabbi Shneur**



# The Year That's Been



This time last year, as I wrote my first piece for ARK Times, my focus was on introducing myself, the vast changes that had taken place at ARK Centre and the excitement of what was to come.

In the 12 months since, I have been lucky enough to get to know many in our community and so I need not reintroduce myself. Indeed working in such a vibrant, dynamic and engaged community, in areas of such fundamental meaning and importance to people's lives, is possibly the best aspect of my role. I have come to know some truly remarkable people, many of whom I'm fortunate enough to now call friends, and been not just bowled over but inspired by the commitment and passion of so many of our members and friends.

I've discovered now that it may just be impossible to write a piece like this without remarking on the phenomenal changes, or perhaps more accurately the remarkable growth, that has taken place in the 'the year that's been'.

Our Board has grown with the addition of Terry Better in the role of Honorary Treasurer, the addition of Jeff Shenker and the inclusion of Theo Axarlis as our Security Liaison. Our Management Team has become complete with the

inclusion of the incredibly well organised Berta Devenyi in Admin, and we have been fortunate to be joined by Gabbi Sar-Shalom to lead our Pastoral Care initiative.

Our Centre is in use more and more. We have designed, developed and delivered new Programs, some of which are highlighted in this magazine, that focus on a broad cross-section of members and friends. Individuals and organisations are discovering what a sensational venue ARK Centre is to hire and we have hosted numerous events and conferences for those within, and external to, our community. We are delighted that charity and NFP groups have made ARK Centre their home from which they deliver their own formidable offerings.

We have delivered some truly sensational events during the year including inspiring speakers, a myriad of amazing smachot and both fun and engaging events for

the Chagim. The success of many of these events – that just keep getting better – is testament to the brilliant group of volunteers who bring creativity, dedication, and a lot of fun each and every time.

Significantly, our position within the broader Jewish community has increased in strength and visibility. Rabbi Shneur's work has been widely recognised. In addition, he continues to liaise with Rabbonim, both locally and internationally, with the intention of bringing increased collaboration, progress, relevance and approachability to Modern Orthodox Jews in the ARK Centre kehillah and beyond.

Our growth continues with the appointment of Rabbi Gabi Kaltmann as Rabbi for Programs and Engagement. Together with his wife, Rebetzin Mushka, and their two sons, we look forward to their increasing roles across a range of activities. It is with great excitement that we welcome them to the team.

As we look forward the future at ARK Centre is not just exciting but full of promise. The Yamim Noraim (High Holy Days) will again feature services and events that engage and involve, that are musical, spiritual and meaningful, and that provide an atmosphere in which everyone can feel at home, inspired and connected. For the year ahead we are developing initiatives and programs designed to address the needs of our growing community.

Our growth continues with the appointment of Rabbi Gabi Kaltmann and Mushka Kantor Kaltmann as Rabbi and Rebetzin for Programs and Engagement. Together with their two sons we look forward to welcoming them to the ARK Centre community and to their increasing roles across a range of activities. It is with great excitement that we welcome them to the team.

Shanah Tova,

**Lisa Naphtali**  
General Manager

The success of many of these events ... is testament to the brilliant group of volunteers who bring creativity, dedication, and a lot of fun each and every time.



# Happenings at ARK Centre

This year has seen ARK Centre continue to provide a warm welcoming haven to celebrate all the Festivals, Shabbat, and important events in the Jewish calendar.

## Yamim Noraim

We started the Jewish Year with Rosh Hashanah, led by Rabbi Shneur in his usual style. The ARK Centre singing group, the ARKapellos, provided a moving musical backdrop to the services attended by over four hundred people. The ARKapellos, led by Scott Griffiths, meet once a week to rehearse in the lead up to the Yamim Noraim.

Just before Rosh Hashanah a group of Bialik College kinder kids came for a visit and Rabbi Shneur led them in some songs and some learning about the festival and, of course, the blowing of the shofar.

Yom Kippur was a spiritual and meaningful experience for all who attended. Rabbi Shneur, assisted by David Ellison, provided a service that resonated with everyone in the shule.

Yizkor services at ARK Centre involve everyone and last year saw the continuation of a beautiful tradition. Instead

of the Rabbi standing and reading a list of names to be remembered, everyone in the congregation named the person or people they were remembering, either in Hebrew or in English. There was a hushed atmosphere, with everyone listening keenly and supporting those around them. It was another deeply moving experience for all those present, with some saying it was the most meaningful and emotional Yizkor they have attended.

In a first for ARK Centre, there was a dinner to break the fast produced by ARK Catering's Chef Dan Woltema. Over 60 people attended and the food was a delicious end to a most meaningful Yom Kippur. We look forward to continuing this as a new tradition at ARK Centre and welcome all those who wish to attend.

## Succot

Succot Family Day has become an event that the ARK Centre community looks forward to each year. The volunteer group, ably led by

Donna Kallenbach, provided an amazing afternoon of activities. The children, aided by parents and friends, joined in the arts and crafts to make colourful decorations for the succah – magen davids, paper chains, sock puppets and more. The party was followed by a scrumptious dinner in Chef Dan's usual manner.



Rabbi Shneur's way of interspersing commentary during the Chag service was enjoyed by all. He talked about many traditional interpretations of Succot particularly the often referred to belief that spending a week in a succah is a punishment for sins such as the Golden Calf. But Rabbi Shneur's description of it being more like a glorious retirement plan was vivid and made us all

think. All the former slaves' physical needs were taken care of, and all they needed to do was 'hang out' in the Sinai Peninsula. Spending time in the desert lends itself to a spiritual experience, being close to nature – and they were not deprived – wherever they camped they were near an oasis.



What is the relevance of Succot and spending time in a succah today? Rabbi Shneur stressed the idea of a connection. We transcend all the mundane things we do in the house, and in a succah which has a completely different feel to it, we get



out of our comfort zone, into a more easy going place, outdoors where we can have a free experience.

Continuing in the way of really enjoying a Chag, the Hakaftot were enjoyed by all, with several rounds being led by men, and a few with only women participating.

## Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah this year at ARK Centre was an emotional and very special one. Chatan Torah and Chatan Bereishit Barry Teperman and Ari Singer brought their families and friends to join the celebrations with the community. Rabbi Shneur called up each child under the age of Bar/ Bat Mitzvah and read a line from the Torah for each.

## Visitors from the Arava

Each year a large group of people come to Melbourne from the Arava in Israel. The Arava is 100 kilometres south of Beersheva, and is a remote but thriving series of moshavim. This year we continued the tradition of hosting a group of visitors for a morning of Shakshukah. Rabbi Shneur talked about Melbourne, and its Jewish community as well as showing them ARK Centre and introducing them to our philosophy and surroundings.



## Purim

For the second year we hosted a Hamentashen Bake-Off. This year Elise Rotstein shared not just her recipe but also her passion and enthusiasm for baking with all those assembled. After a demonstration of how to make the dough the excited group mixed and stirred and rolled their dough before completing them with delicious jam and chocolate fillings. All left with ready-to-bake Hamentashen and, after baking them at home, enjoyed the delicious festive baked treats. Many made additional Hamentashen for the community to enjoy at the Purim party – and they



for a fantastic atmosphere. Rabbi Shneur added his unique insight to questions many have been asking for years. At ARK Centre anyone who wants to participate can. Adults and children alike read, recited and presented their part of the Seder with real enthusiasm, making sure that everyone understood the reason we continue some age-old traditions, and the significance of the rituals, as well as adding some new food for thought. All joined in the singing and recitation of brachot making for a truly engaging night for all.

The children were led in a range of Pesach-themed activities and Afikoman search by Adam van Heerden after dinner and returned to open the door for Eliyahu and sang songs all together.

Chef Dan provided a beautiful dinner to the delight of all. In the lead up to the Seder, Elise Rotstein led a team of volunteers in an afternoon of baking who provided the dessert at the end of the meal.

Indeed the Seder would not have been possible without the sensational efforts of a dedicated group of volunteers who conceptualised the evening, planned the table decorations, undertook the task of table settings, arranged Afikoman prizes for the children and so much more.

Each year our Seder grows as its reputation spreads and people book from year to year. We are looking forward to ARK Centre Seder being bigger and better in 2018.



## Pesach

Pesach 2017 was a memorable evening when ARK Centre held our second communal Seder at our Cato St. home. This year over 100 people attended which made

## Tikkun Leil Shavuot

ARK Centre now has its own Pastoral Care leader, Gabbi Sar-Shalom, who works with a team of volunteers along with Rabbi Shneur, ensuring that no ARK Centre member is left alone in times of stress, illness and sadness.

Together with Rabbi Shneur, Gabbi led a discussion for around 50 people on the impact prayer has on us from an emotional, halachik, physiological and spiritual perspective. Viewpoints differed and some of the discussion led to debate – which is exactly what we love about this community and this kind of evening.

It wouldn't be ARK Centre without great food, and Chef Dan created a delicious milchig supper to top off a truly interesting, engaging and thought-provoking evening.

## Rosh Chodesh and Special Shabbaton

ARK Centre enjoys an ongoing close relationship with Bialik College and for many of the students ARK Centre is a familiar and enjoyable place to visit.

Each month on Rosh Chodesh, Year 8 & 9 students from Bialik come to a morning service where Rabbi Shneur provides thoughts on particular topics.

Each year, Year 5 students come to a Shabbat morning service as part of their annual Shabbaton. Rabbi Shneur includes them in the service and explains the significance of the various prayers, and the Torah reading.

# Shabbat @ ARK Centre

Shabbat is a central pillar of Judaism, where we rest from the usual toil and busyness of the week, and take some time to relax and rest, or at least enjoy time with our family and catch up with friends. In an age when we never switch off, when being plugged in is synonymous with life to many, it's never been more relevant to be grateful for this time to stop. Stopping allows us to thank God for the opportunity to come back into ourselves, to come back to core values and, sometimes on a weekly basis, be reminded about what is truly important and what it is we are working so hard for.

At ARK Centre Friday nights are especially enjoyable – full of energy, song and ruach (spirit). Kabbalat Shabbat begins with a Kiddush that in itself has been known to attract the crowds. After a nosh and a l'chaim Rabbi Shneur leads a service full of song, a droscha that always offers something to think about and a vibrant service to welcome in the Shabbat. During the service there are often so many children on the bimah it's difficult to fit them all on. Somehow Rabbi Shneur makes himself heard to lead the singing and Kabbalat Shabbat service.

ARK Centre holds a monthly Shabbaton where, on the Shabbat morning, Rabbi Shneur explains the service and the Torah reading and children and parents alike enjoy the singing and participation in the service. Each month there is something different to learn and discover. And each month the lunch afterwards seems to be more delicious. Dates for the monthly Shabbaton can be found on our website or in our weekly newsletter.

During the year we hold a number of special events on various Shabbatot.

We have been fortunate to host speakers from Israel who were visiting Australia on behalf of ZDVO (Zahal Disabled Veterans Organization).

Shiri Mirvis spoke to the congregation in September 2016 about her experiences of being



a survivor of a terror attack in Tel Aviv. Her talk brought what we read about and watch on TV into reality, and hearing about her survival and struggles since gave all of those present a clear and stark understanding of what Israelis experience regularly.

In February 2017, Moran Samuels, a wheelchair bound athlete, left the congregation in no doubt that she has healed from her injury and is continuing in her athletic life, training to gain a place in the Israeli Paralympic team. Unfortunately due to illness she didn't compete at Rio, but none of those who heard her speak were left in any doubt that Tokyo 2020 beckons. Moran has a loving partner and a beautiful baby who behaved perfectly while her mother was speaking.

Each year we celebrate alongside kehilot the world over during the Shabbat Project Weekend. In October 2016 over 60 people stayed after the service and enjoyed a delicious Shabbat with all the brachot (blessings), a delicious dinner and a warm and inviting community atmosphere. Minds were challenged by Rabbi Shneur's commentary,

and everyone felt it was amazing to be part of a world-wide event. We look forward to being a part of the wonderful initiative again in 2017.

Being part of the broader community is something we are very proud of. For Yom HaAtzmaut we celebrated as part of the Zionism Victoria initiative, and had an Israeli-themed Kabbalat Shabbat. Bunny Rose spoke about the impact of being in Israel on a recent trip with Mount Scopus and seeing the reality that she had only heard of. We witnessed the transformation of a young girl for whom Israel was an intangible idea before she went, and for whom since it is a very important, very real place that she would like to visit more often. Songs were sung with passion, Israeli flags were waved and the best falafel and sebich around were devoured by a community celebrated our homeland, Eretz Yisrael.

During the year many families have celebrated their smachot and acknowledged loved ones and yarhzeits by sponsoring the Kiddush on a Friday night or Shabbat morning.

Every Shabbat we offer the opportunity to come together with friends and family.

# ARK Centre Programs



## The RAD Program

The RAD Program, for students in Years 3, 4 & 5, was designed to interweave ideas from Judaism and positive psychology to engage young people in viewing the world

with radical amazement. The Program included activities around mindfulness, non-reactivity (the possibility of being aware of stimuli without being distracted by them), relaxation techniques,

personal identity and roles, and more via new, creative and mind-opening activities. Each week the session encouraged the students to think differently whilst having a lot of fun.

## Mindfulness

Every Monday night over a four-week period in September, Marike Knight from Cool Karma. Collected. – a fully accredited stress reduction practitioner – ran an introductory course in mindfulness which attracted over 20 people from the ARK Centre community as well as some who had heard about the program and decided to join the course.

So, what is mindfulness? It is a practice that cultivates our

ability to pay attention on purpose, in the present moment, non-judgementally.

Those who attended came from a cross section of ages, genders and experiences, where everyone learned to listen to their body, slow down and meditate in a peaceful space, lit with a multitude of salt lamps. Marike has many years of experience in meditation and mindfulness which she

brought to the sessions in a warm and welcoming way.

Courses such as this are one of the many activities that ARK Centre runs, bringing a broad spectrum of offerings to the membership.



## Sessions with the Rabbi

Sessions with the Rabbi is an evolving shiur led by Rabbi Shneur. The topics change and vary but the essence remains the same – the coming together of individuals, from a range of backgrounds and viewpoints, to explore subject matter from religious, psychological, spiritual, humanist and, above all, intellectual perspectives. In early 2017 the sessions

took the form of a Book Club exploring the themes and ideas included in *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harari. Later the sessions explored interesting articles, concepts and newsworthy items of relevance today. Participants enjoy discussing, challenging themselves and

each other, learning and having a scotch or two... and usually some herring... while they broaden their perspectives.



## B'Nei Mitzvah

The B'Nei Mitzvah Program at ARK Centre is a fun, engaging and educational experience for pre Bar and Bat Mitzvah students. Each year the young people are inspired not just to learn but to question. By way of creative and exciting activities during the sessions key concepts around Shabbat, Kashrut, Tikkun Olam, Environment and Sustainability, Wellbeing, Spirituality, Modern Orthodox Jewish Identity and more are explored.

The 2016 Program culminated in a moving Graduation Ceremony attended by a record number of parents, friends and grandparents. Each of the participants shared their thoughts and

feelings on an aspect of what they had learned, what they had gained and how the Program had left them feeling about themselves and young Modern Orthodox Jews ahead of their Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

In 2017 the new group of students have participated in a broad range of activities from working in the garden, cooking, workshoping creative thinking, understanding slavery historically (as it relates to Pesach) and in modern times, discovering how scribing for the Torah / Tefillin / Mezuzot is undertaken from a

professional Sofer, participating in the Gen2Gen Program and so much more. Under the leadership of Rabbi Shneur, along with guest speakers and presenters, these young people are learning to discover for themselves what it means to be a true member of Klal Yisrael.



# ARK Centre Third Birthday Gala Event

This year ARK Centre celebrated our 3rd birthday in our beautiful premises in Cato St. It was a celebration of everything that we as a Jewish Centre continue to provide for the Jewish community ranging from Hawthorn, through Malvern, Armadale, Toorak, Glen Iris and even so far as Caulfield. We have come a very long way from the earliest of days in an old classroom to then an old house and now a beautiful custom-designed building that has the synagogue in the centre, and the capacity to host hundreds of people.

butterfly enclosure that delighted the children as well as their parents and grandparents, a reptile experience that entranced and intrigued those gathered, a drumming circle where people of all ages participated and managed to work off some serious emotion, a photo booth, a performance by the ARKapella singing group who encouraged their audience to join in (which they did with enthusiasm) – and possibly attracted a few more to join the group – and Art Factory arts and crafts.

The day was enhanced by the amazing dinner from ARK Catering that kept the young, and young at heart, fed and ready to continue enjoying the afternoon and evening.

In a quiet moment some of those who have been involved from the very start reflected on the sense of family that imbued the day. It's that sense of family, of connection, that many say is the reason they come to ARK Centre on a regular basis.

The birthday party attracted over 200 people who enjoyed a vast array of activities available on the rainy Summer day in February.

Families of all ages enjoyed arcade games, a beautiful



# Introducing Rabbi Gabi Kaltmann and Rebetzin Mushka Kantor Kaltmann

Rabbi Gabi Kaltmann has traveled the world extensively, helping all types of Jews and communities from the hills of India to the slums of Nigeria. For many, Rabbi Gabi is known as the 'Kottel Rabbi' bringing the Shabbat spirit alive to countless birthright participants. Rabbi Gabi's infectious passion for his heritage

has a lasting impact on everyone he meets. Born and raised in Melbourne, Rabbi Gabi has gone on to study in France, New York and Israel, where he received Rabbinical ordination. He worked for The Shul of Bal Harbour – The biggest Synagogue in Florida – as well as the Central Synagogue

in Sydney, running their youth programs. He and his wife Mushka together with their two adorable young sons Av and Lev cannot wait to join the ARK Centre team.

Mushka Kantor Kaltmann has always been a leader in her community – in Bangkok, Thailand, where she grew up, and in Los Angeles, California, and Safed, Israel, where she has studied. Her commitment to Jewish education is evident from her extensive work experience in the field. She's run winter camps in both Sweden and Arizona, has taught Hebrew school in New York, and managed Jewish Community Centres programming all over the world. Mushka has also strong ties to Melbourne being the Great Granddaughter of Rabbi Kantor of Kantor's Bookshop in St Kilda Road. An avid scholar of Judaism, a master of four languages, fashionista with her own clothing line, passionate chef and mother of two gorgeous young boys, Mushka is excited to bring her talents and skills to ARK Centre.

They join the team as Rabbi and Rebetzin for Programs and Engagement. They both look forward to working with Rabbi Shneur and the ARK Centre team and, importantly, meeting members and friends and becoming an important addition to our kehilah.





# Rabbi Shneur Visits Broken Hill

In March 2017 Rabbi Shneur visited the Broken Hill Shule and in so doing ignited a passion to remember and reinvigorate the bastion of contemporary Australian Jewish history.

The foundation and history of the Broken Hill Jewish community is known to some, indeed members within the ARK Centre community have close and direct ties to it, but arguably it should be understood by more.

For a small group of Ukrainian Jewish refugees in the late 19th century Broken Hill was to become home, safety, security and citizenship in a country that gave them equality before the Law. Here in the deepest outback those refugees became small businesspeople and large benefactors to workers during the social convulsions of the great Barrier Mine Strikes.

The foundation of the community and their active involvement for three generations is a shining example of their determination to perpetuate age-old traditions, and maintain their sense of Jewish identity and life, in a new town where they had no roots, a different language an entirely foreign culture surrounding them.

The story of the Broken Hill Jewish community began at the very birth of the town itself in 1888. Committed to observing their faith and traditions, services were held in the Masonic Hall from the earliest days of arrival. By 1900 it was a community of 150 people. In 1910 the Broken Hill Shule was built. By the 1920s and 30s the community numbered around 250. This was, by any measure, a thriving Jewish community located some 1200 kilometres North West of Sydney.

As the years progressed, there was desire among some for the next generations to have more opportunity to mix in Jewish circles. Another example of the commitment these families had to the preservation and continuity of Jewish life. From

the 1940s the community began to dwindle with many moving to be part of larger Jewish communities in Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne. In 1962 the Shule officially closed and in 2005 the last remaining local Jew passed away.



In 1990 the Historical Society purchased the land and reinvigorated the then dilapidated building into the Synagogue of the Outback Museum.

Today the Shule Museum continues to be maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers, none of whom is Jewish. The Historical Society, and the individuals who dedicate their time and effort, recognises the worth of maintaining such an important part of Australia's

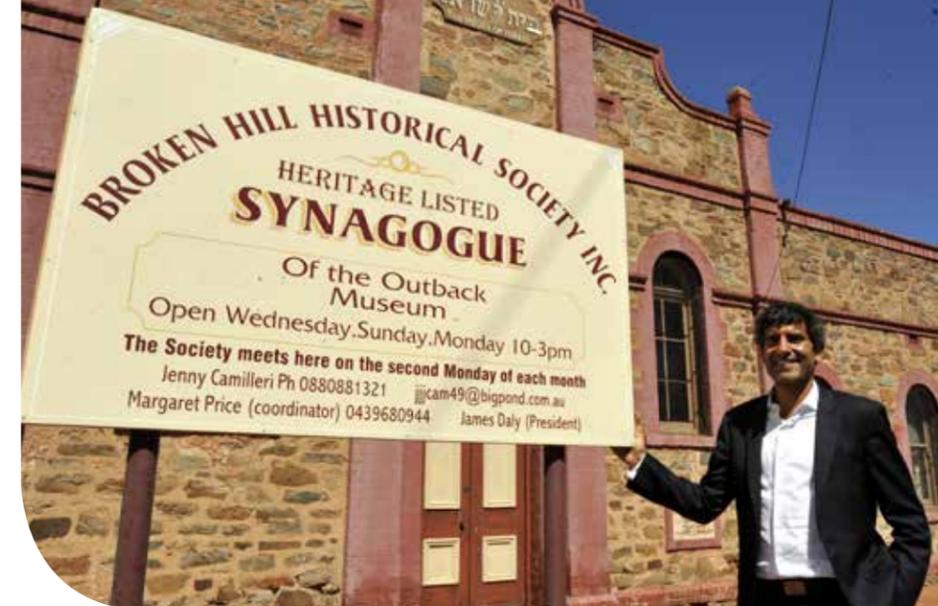
Jewish Heritage. Indeed they also maintain an old mosque, established in 1891, that is located at the site where Afghan and Indian drivers loaded and unloaded their camels. As well, within the same building as the Synagogue of the Outback Museum, there is a room dedicated to the preservation of priestly robes and artefacts from the Broken Hill Christian community. It is truly remarkable to view these three very different, yet equally important histories, of this outback town.

In late 2016 members of the ARK Centre community, the Paratz family, visited the Synagogue of the Outback Museum. Lawrence Paratz, noticing that the Aron Hakodesh was bare, generously offered to donate a Chumash to the Shule in order to ensure, in accordance with accepted practice, that the holiest part of the synagogue never be empty. Upon return to



Melbourne, Lawrence recounted his experience to Rabbi Shneur who was immediately excited at the prospect of visiting the Heritage Listed landmark himself.

When Rabbi Shneur, Lawrence and Lisa Naphtali visited in March, Margaret Price who manages the Shule Museum said she could



barely believe it. She said that over the years there had been many offers, kind ones like Lawrence's, but they almost never came to fruition.

Over the course of the day there, groups gathered in the Shule including volunteers, a local journalist, members of the Historical Society and Mayor Darriea Turley. In each group Rabbi Shneur was asked questions about aspects of the Shule and what services might have been like decades earlier. And the three visitors from Melbourne were treated to tales of the people who founded the community, families who have been involved since, the remarkable weekend in 2010 when the 100th anniversary was celebrated and shown folders of historical documents from the years in which the Shule was operational.

The acoustics of the beautiful old Shule were put to good use when Rabbi Shneur chanted El Male Rachamim in honour of Alwyn David Edelman, the last Jew of Broken Hill. The sound was incredible, in the true meaning of that word. While Rabbi Shneur explained the prayer, and translated parts of it for those gathered, the emotion that permeated the building during those moments was beyond words. There was a collective, unspoken,

understanding of what it meant to have the prayer recited so hauntingly by a Rabbi honouring both one man, and the legacy of an entire community.

The Broken Hill Jewish Community began, and thrived, because of the passion of a few migrants to keep their heritage, traditions and culture alive across the other side of the world. After visiting the Synagogue of the Outback the ARK Centre team, led by Rabbi Shneur, is committed to the development of an ongoing relationship to ensure that such a unique aspect of our history is honoured and remembered. It is often said of the most tragic and brutal parts of Jewish History that we must never forget. And so it is true also of the most beautiful parts of our history, like this hundred year old community, that can offer inspiration to us all as we seek to keep our often fragmented community connected and together.

ARK Centre, together with Dr. Howard Goldenberg, will organise a group pilgrimage, open to all, to the Broken Hill Shule and Jewish Cemetery to take place in March 2018. More information will become available in coming months via our newsletter and website.



# Pastoral Care at ARK



from the immediate impact can be good to talk with.

Despite our efforts at ARK Centre to be inclusive, there are always some in the community who feel isolated. Perhaps they do not have family, or they are far away physically or emotionally. Perhaps they are in a care facility or in hospital. Perhaps they, or someone they love, could just do with unburdening your troubles and fears with someone a little removed from your direct experience.

Sometimes when we struggle, we question what is meaningful and may wonder about God's role in our lives.

We humans are social creatures and we need each other close to feel connected to each other and better in ourselves. Pastoral Care is about being an active listening presence to another. It may involve praying with or for someone or exploring questions of faith. More often than not, Pastoral Care involves hearing someone's story and struggle. It's about walking alongside someone as they try to cope with hardship.

There are certain times in our lives such as having a baby, facing adversity or relationship breakdown or mourning the death of a loved one, when it

is important that we take care of ourselves. Part of a healthy mental, emotional and spiritual life is reaching out to others and accepting assistance.

I am delighted to have joined ARK Centre to lead our Pastoral Care initiative. Together with a team of volunteers, we try to be aware of our members and provide them with care, visitation, food, transport, phone calls, social engagement and a listening ear. Volunteers undergo some training in Pastoral Care which enables them to keep conversation focused on the other and understand about confidentiality and boundaries around their roles.

If you or someone you know could benefit from Pastoral Care services please get in touch with me. And if you're interested in becoming a volunteer or learning more about what we do I'd love to hear from you. You can reach me through the ARK Centre office or via [gabbi@arkcentre.com.au](mailto:gabbi@arkcentre.com.au)

**Gabbi Sar-Shalom**



# Smachot

Rabbi Shneur brings his own unique perspective to a simcha, whether a Bar or Bat Mitzvah or a wedding or baby naming. The guiding principle at ARK Centre is that the family and their guests should feel welcome, and truly enjoy the event. To assist families with the planning and organisation, ARK Centre has a full time event manager who can calm pre-simcha nerves and ensure that everything runs to plan.





# Our Story – Rita Gelbart

On the 25th March 2017, our family and friends celebrated our son Gideon's call up to the Torah the week before his wedding. It was an emotional time for us all.

Our children's journey was a long and difficult one. At the commencement of 2016 Gideon and Caylin joined the ARK Centre congregation and under the direction, and support of Rabbi Reti-Waks, their conversion process that had already been going for some years took a new turn. Our children attended classes at ARK Centre for over a year under the tuition of Rabbi Reti-Waks. Earlier this year the young couple travelled to Israel to present themselves before a board of Orthodox Rabbis. Caylin not only passed the examination before the Israeli Beth Din, but as a result of her dedication, and support from Rabbi Reti-Waks, she was embraced into Judaism in an emotionally charged process.

The call up was a warm and enjoyable service. The kiddish that followed was above and beyond. The food and presentation was spectacular. Special thanks must go to Jackie Sher and Chef Dan for their tireless work and support. Nothing was too much trouble and their friendly manner was comforting during the stressful preparations for a wedding.

Our thanks must go to Rabbi Reti-Waks. He has created an environment where our children felt comfortable and were able to enjoy the conversion process. We are indebted to his dedication and constant support during the journey our children embarked upon and we wish him his family, and the ARK Centre congregation, continuous success in all their endeavours.

Rabbi Reti-Waks married Gideon and Caylin on 2nd April 2017. It was a simcha worthy of the word simcha.



# The Resident Visitor



Rabbi Yehoshua Grunstein is the Director of Training and Placement at Straus-Amiel & Beren-Amiel institute of Ohr Torah Stone, Israel. In November 2016, ARK Centre was pleased to host him as our Guest Rabbi in Residence for the third consecutive year.

*"Visitor or Temporary Entrant" versus "Resident Returning" with "Migrating Permanently" in between the two, are usually the choices that one can choose when filling out an Incoming Passenger Card as your plane makes its way to Australian soil.*

Indeed for any passenger, this seems to be a rather simple choice as one can easily choose one of the choices above as they apply to him/her. And yet, for a believing and practicing Jew, coming to Melbourne on the week of Parshat Chayei-Sarah, and subsequently spending time at ARK Centre, the choice of which box to tick retroactively turned out to be quite the challenge.

After all, when Avraham, our Patriarch, introduced himself to the sons of Chet in this very Parsha, buying [the first] Jewish cemetery in history, his identification- card/self-definition was thus; *"Ger Ve'to'shav Ano'chi imachem"* / I am a Resident-Visitor amongst you."

How can one be both a "Resident" & a "Visitor" simultaneously? Either one lives there [and thus, is a "resident,"<sup>1</sup> or one is visiting [and thus is a "visitor?"] How can one manage to be both at the very same time?

While complex, I believe Avraham was setting the charge for Jews at that very moment, a charge we are still challenged to live by.

On the one hand, we are part-and-parcel of the life and society around us, and thus, no different than any other "resident":

- We enjoy certain things and find other things rather annoying.
- If tomorrow, G-d will put the needed wisdom into the minds of our doctors and medical experts to find an ultimate cure for the terrible terminal disease of cancer, the Jewish world will equally rejoice TOGETHER with the world at large!
- If our taxes will go down [as Jews are commanded to obey the law of the land in (amongst others) monetary matters, better known as *"dina de'mal'chu'ta dina"* Jews together with Non-Jews will benefit equally!

And yet, at the very same time, we are different, in that, while the world at large is commanded to keep just "seven Noahide commandments," we Jews are commanded to obey hundreds more biblically, together with many Rabbinic commands and customs:

- If the prices go down to buy the four species needed for Sukkot, the Chanukah wicks & oil/candles for Chanukah, or Kosher food needed all year, only us Jews will be happy at this prospect.
- When a biblical Holiday falls out on a Thursday-Friday, thus leading right into Shabbat and creating a three-day "unplugged" separation from the world [despite the work awaiting us at the termination of Shabbat,] only us Jews will benefit from the wonderful hiatus it creates.
- If the weather is surprisingly cool & pleasant on Yom Kippur, or on any of the other

five Jewish Fast-Days of the year, only we Jews will continually thank G-d for a relatively "easy fast."

Indeed, during those past few days, I saw up-close the challenge of this patriarchal "Resident-Visitor" legacy our forefather Avraham being practiced and expressed in the ARK Centre, which is divided physically into three equal rooms:

1) In the first, there are endless activities that any Australian might find interesting, all while adhering to every last iota of Halacha/Jewish law: singing groups [while observing the prohibition of *Kol-Isha*] meditation, exercise-groups [while adhering to the laws of Tzniut/modesty] and more. None of the above are particularly Jewish inventions, and yet all find their way into this Centre.

2) In the second room, literally & figuratively in the "centre" of the "Centre," there is a proper & *Halachik* orthodox synagogue where beautiful & rather emotionally stimulating orthodox prayer services are delivered before G-d.

3) And finally, in the third room, there is a dining hall, with a complete kosher kitchen, providing delicious & healthy food intertwined with a wonderful, friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

This Centre's very physical structure has taken upon itself something that seems to be rather challenging: to provide its local community with a FULL-FLEDGED Torah experience, in which both the "Resident" in us, together with the "Visitor" part of us, can feel TOTALLY fulfilled... in the very same building. The first room providing the needs of the "Visitor," the second that of the "Resident" and the third combining the two at once [for,

as we all know, we all like to eat & drink, albeit adhering to the laws governing what a Jew is allowed to consume [i.e. – kosher food only.]

Combining the two is rather hard, and I'm sure that it's far easier, not to mention less costly and challenging, to attempt to be either a "Resident" or just a "Visitor." But thank G-d, the ARK Centre's vision and continued leadership have taken upon themselves the task to provide both in the very same place, without compromising, G-d forbid, the latter for the former but rather building and maintaining a synthesis that, simultaneously, provides both.

Experiencing it, and seeing that it's not only a vision & dream, but rather a viable and practical possibility, I admit that the 'customs card' to enter the country has become increasingly difficult to fill in. But more importantly, it is my hope and genuine *Tefilla*/ prayer that G-d bestow upon its members & leaders precisely what we read towards the end of this very same portion, Parshat Chayei-Sara, in which it is quoted:

*"And it happened, following the death of Avraham, G-d blessed his son, Yitzchak."*

Combining both the "resident" and the "visitor" within Jewish law and lore, I hope and pray that G-d will grant his divine blessing to this Centre's members to continue this legacy of Avraham for many more years, for them and their progeny, in health and happiness.

**Rabbi Yehoshua Grunstein**

<sup>1</sup> As we pray for thrice [almost] daily, in the 4th of the 19 blessings of the silent & public Amidah.

# ARK Catering



his other passion – food. Love brought him to Melbourne where he settled down with Sarah and, last year, they welcomed their gorgeous daughter Jasmine to their family.

In late 2015 Chef Dan met Rabbi Shneur and then the ARK Centre team. It took almost no time at all for this gastronomic relationship to take off and Dan became an integral member of the ARK Centre family on a full time basis in 2016.

Chef Dan's mission is to provide the community with fresh, healthy and delicious modern Kosher food. The food presented is appealing and colourful Kosher catering through Chef Dan's vision of updating the typical Jewish food menu.

On the menu you will find a blend of traditional dishes which have been given a modern touch, as well as a delicious Mediterranean cuisine featuring Chef Dan's signature flavours.

ARK Catering is pleased to provide catering services for all ARK Centre kiddushim and events and is available for in-home catering as well. The menu allows for customisation

to ensure each and every event meets personal preferences and budgets. Go online to see our Kiddush menu or contact Jackie in the office on 8658 4044 or via [operations@arkcentre.com.au](mailto:operations@arkcentre.com.au) to discuss your next Kiddush or catering need.

And of course ARK Catering is thrilled to announce that Take Away meals are now available for Shabbat Dinners on a weekly basis.

ARK Catering is proud to be supporting the Access Inc Bakery which aims to promote the rights and interests of people with a disability from within the Jewish community.

All food coming from ARK Catering is Mehadrin Kosher.

Chef Dan also heads The Rabbi's Pantry for catering with Kosher Australia certification.



# Lamb Kofta

Feeds approx. 15 adults

Many of you will have enjoyed Chef Dan's Lamb Kofta's at ARK Centre events. Now you can make them for yourself at home. Beteavon!

## Ingredients:

1.5 kg minced lamb  
0.5 kg minced beef  
Half bunch mint chopped  
Half bunch parsley chopped  
1 onion chopped  
1 cup currants  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup pine nuts roasted  
1 tbs cinnamon  
1 tbs cumin  
1 tbs coriander  
1 tbs salt (kosher meat is salty enough)

## Method:

1. Mix all the herbs and spices together
2. Add the meat
3. Mix well. It's best to use hands but a good mixer with a dough attachment will also do the trick. Try not to over work the meat so it doesn't end up looking like a paste.
4. Roll into small balls of around 40 grams each. Shape each ball in the palm of the hand into a 'kofta shape' like a football or stretched ball with pointy ends. You should get about 60 small koftas. Any excess can be put in the freezer at this stage for use at a later date.
5. Fry in a lightly oiled pan on medium heat. For ideal results, grill on a pan to achieve grill marks on the kofta and then finish off in a medium oven (180) for around 15 minutes. The kofta are ready when they feel firm from outside and still slightly pink in the center. Note that cooking times do vary.



Best served with hummus/ tahini, pita and freshly chopped Israeli salad.

ARK Centre Head Chef Dan Woltema brings a unique approach to Kosher catering that reflects his Dutch heritage and upbringing on a kibbutz in Israel. After leaving Israel to travel the world, Dan discovered the joys of cooking in Holland where he was visiting family, and went on to work and learn in amazing restaurants in Europe. His quest for adventure brought him to Australia so he could explore the country by motorcycle. After satiating his thirst for seeing the sights on two wheels, he undertook formal culinary studies in Sydney to satisfy

# Food & Gathering: Cooking Experiences by ARK Catering

## Take Away Menu for Shabbat Dinners Now Available!

View the menu at  
[www.thearkcentre.org.au/ark-catering](http://www.thearkcentre.org.au/ark-catering)

Call the office on **8658 4044**  
or email [kitchen@arkcentre.com.au](mailto:kitchen@arkcentre.com.au)  
for more information



Food & Gathering is coming to ARK Centre and this is your chance to take part in a cooking experience that is a combination of interaction, creation and learning.

Food & Gathering will bring people together to learn, get their hands dirty, laugh and share a meal. The experiences will offer an exciting culinary experience based on a variety of cuisines

from around the world. Children, adults, parents, and grandparents will learn together about cuisines and will deepen their relationship through the process of making a meal.

These will be cooking demonstrations and cooking workshops where you'll learn not just about making the food but also important information around nutrition

and where certain foods and food practices come from. Sessions will be designed to be small gatherings ensuring everyone in attendance can see what the chefs are doing, learn some skills and have a lot of fun!

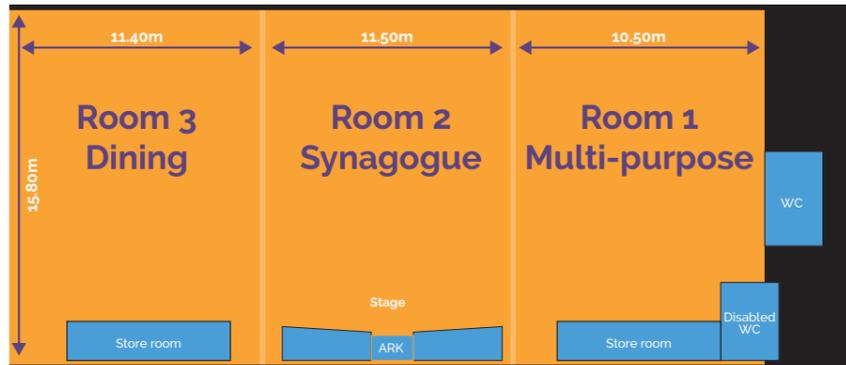
Sessions will be run by ARK Catering's Chef Dan together with Yarden Ityel. Yarden is not just a vivacious Israeli but she has amazing skills in food preparation and presentation. These two cooking dynamos will provide a wonderful experience with friends, new and old – you'll leave with skills you can use at home and have a meal you'll remember forever.

Sharing food in this way brings a very special richness to our lives – it is what makes us a great community.

Our workshops will offer fun, educational and interactive cooking experiences starting in September 2017. If you're interested to learn more, please send an email to [kitchen@arkcentre.com.au](mailto:kitchen@arkcentre.com.au) and write in the subject line "I'm excited about cooking at ARK Centre." And watch the weekly newsletter and our website for updates on session times and prices.



# ARK Centre – A Great Flexible Venue For Your Event



You know ARK Centre as your shule and community centre, but it is also a wonderful venue for your next event, whether it be a luncheon for family and friends, a great Bar or Bat Mitzvah, a corporate meeting or a cultural festival for 600 people. The venue offers spaces from 50 square metres to over 500 square metres.



Are you looking for a space to hold your next company conference or business meetings? We can host everything from a short meeting to a multi-day conference for 60 people – or more. We can provide catering for meeting breaks as well as a superb lunch – which can be set up in a separate room if preferred.



If you are planning a large community event or other celebration, we can open up all three rooms for a space of around 35m by 15m, together with the foyer area and fully equipped kitchen.



Looking for a perfect venue for that special dinner or luncheon? We can convert Room 3 into an intimate restaurant for you and your guests – and provide superb meals prepared by Chef Dan and his team.

Opening the wall between Rooms 2 and 3 provides a fantastic 350 square metre space for your Bar Mitzvah or other special event. We can make this space the coolest place in town.



Cultural event for the Melbourne Rajasthani community



To discuss options and obtain a quotation for your upcoming event contact Jackie Sher, ARK Centre Events & Programs Manager, on 8658 4044 or email [operations@arkcentre.com.au](mailto:operations@arkcentre.com.au)

# Volunteers



ARK Centre is blessed to have a team of volunteers who work on creating events, providing security, offering Pastoral Care support and much more.

Board member, Donna Kallenbach, leads a team of enthusiastic volunteers. Together they plan many events and we are so grateful for the immense amount of time and hard work they put in to ensure every event is a success. Chagim such as Purim, Pesach and Succot require hours of planning, discussions, phone calls, brainstorming, making sure that each event is unique and more memorable than the one they created the year before. Over several events this past year, we have attracted hundreds of people; parents with children, singles, grandparents, all drawn to the atmosphere, the food and the Yiddishkeit to be found at an ARK Centre event.

Without all our volunteers ARK Centre couldn't be the Jewish Centre that it is. They bring brains, enthusiasm, creativity and a hard working capacity which enables ARK Centre management to trust that what they are working so hard for will be delivered to the highest standard.

Our thanks to the sensational group of volunteers who work so hard in all they offer to this community:

- |                   |                    |                 |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Ann Greiman       | Donna Kallenbach   | Naava Soudack   |
| Atida Naphtali    | Elissa Joachim     | Naomi Feldman   |
| Belinda Held      | Elle Schwartz      | Pauline Grodski |
| Celine Wolfson    | Kerrie Paratz      | Rebecca Better  |
| Collette Michelle | Liz Levin          | Sharon Berman   |
| Corinne Goldberg  | Margaret Fischer   | Talya Goldsmith |
| Danielle Deane    | Melissa Blumenthal | Tania Spiegel   |



# Website launch

The ARK Centre website was totally redeveloped and launched in December 2016. The website is a hub for all events and activities, services, everything to do with ARK Centre.

Anyone interested in knowing more about the philosophy and approach to life cycle events can find them on the site. Online you can make an enquiry regarding your upcoming simcha and our various programs and events. We have an online booking system so you can book and pay for all of your dinners and events online, hassle free, totally securely. And importantly, you can make donations on the site.

Members and friends can keep up to date with upcoming events, view the ARK Catering menus, find musical pieces of interest, read through an archive

of Rabbi Shneur's droshas, book in for events and programs, sign up to our newsletter, view our Code of Conduct and much, much more.

There is a member's portal where you can log in and access the calendar of events, service times, and a gallery of past events.

The website is an easily accessible hub for members and friends to engage and stay connected to ARK Centre in your own time. It is a complement to the ARK weekly newsletter to keep up with the news as it happens.

[www.thearkcentre.com.au](http://www.thearkcentre.com.au)



# Our Village Kitchen

Welcome to Our Village Kitchen. Our vision is to connect our community and culture through our shared love of food and cooking, by providing nutritious Shabbat meals for families in our community going through tough times.



Our Village Kitchen was inspired by the famous quote "It takes a village to raise a child". We feel fortunate to be part of a special and caring community, and to be able to combine our love of food and cooking with our desire to give back to the community.

Over the last 6 months, with the help of 300 volunteers, we have made over 1,250 Shabbat meals for members of our community in need.

Recipients of our meals are members of our community

supported by Pekelach and other community organisations.

## How You Can Help?

### Volunteer with us:

To maximise our impact of making Shabbat meals for families in our community, we are reaching out for volunteers to sign up for one or more cooking shifts. Cooking sessions run for 2 hours, at 9:30am on a Thursday morning (with some options for Thursday evening and Friday morning sessions). Sessions are based at ARK Centre in their state of the art Kosher kitchen. Everyone is welcome, no cooking experience necessary.

### Make a Donation:

Not a lover of cooking but want to support Our Village Kitchen by making a donation? Amazing! All donations go towards

the cost of purchasing ingredients for our cooking sessions. It costs just \$20 to feed 1 family a 3 course Shabbat meal and \$360 to fund the entire cooking session and feed 18 families a beautiful Shabbat meal.

- Sponsor 1 family – \$20
- Sponsor 2 families – \$40 etc.
- Sponsor 18 families (a cooking session) – \$360

We would love your support. To sign up for a shift or make a donation, please go to <https://www.trybooking.com/PVYH> or if you would like to offer your support in any other way, please contact us at [hello@ourvillagekitchen.com.au](mailto:hello@ourvillagekitchen.com.au)

The Team at Our Village Kitchen – Romy, Galit, Lisa, Jo & Emily



ARK Centre is proud to support our community's new venture Our Village Kitchen. Each fortnight we welcome a passionate group of 5 Bialik mums, and their awesome army of volunteers, in to our kitchen to cook up a storm for families in the community.



# ARK Centre Board Members, Management Team & Major Donors

## BOARD MEMEBERS



Rabbi Shneur Reti-Waks



Michael Naphtali



Lionel Krongold



David Mandel



Joan Lurie



Ross Goldsmith



Donna Kallenbach



Gretchen Grodski



Terry Better



Jeff Shenker



Theo Axarlis – Security Liaison

## MANAGEMENT TEAM



Lisa Naphtali



Jackie Sher



Dan Woltema



Gabbi Sar-Shalom



Berta Devenyi

## ARK Centre Thanks our Major Donors:

- Erdi Group
- George Castan Family Foundation
- Graham and Debbie Goldsmith
- Josh Liberman & Family
- Helen & Bori Liberman
- Lionel & Marian Krongold Family
- Lynda & David Mandel
- Victor Smorgon Family Group – Monica & Peter Edwards
- Naphtali Family
- Pratt Family Foundation
- Anonymous

## Special Thanks:

To the Caulfield Hebrew Congregation for the ongoing loan of a Sefer Torah.  
To Michael Fetter of Tisher Liner FC Law Solicitors as honorary solicitor.

# Yom Tov Times

## Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday 20 September

Erev Rosh Hashanah – 6:00pm. Kiddush provided

Thursday 21 September

First Day Rosh Hashanah – 10:00am start, finish approx. 1:00pm.  
Kiddush to follow

Tashlich – meet at ARK Centre at 5:15 for Tashlich at 5:30pm.  
Will be followed by Kiddush and service

Friday 22 September

Second Day Rosh Hashanah – 10:00am start, finish approx. 1:00pm. Kiddush to follow

## Yom Kippur

Friday 29 September

Kol Nidre, 6:30pm

Saturday 30 September

Yom Kippur

10:00am Start  
11:30am Yizkor  
1:15pm (approx) Break commences  
6:00pm Mincha followed by Neila

Light refreshments to break the fast.

Dinner available @ \$30 for adults, \$20 for children (members), \$40 for adults, \$30 for children (non-members). Must book and pay in advance via the ARK Centre website

## Succot

Wednesday 4 October

Erev Succot, 6:00pm with Kiddush in the Succah

Thursday 5 October

First Day Succot – 10:00am with Kiddush in succah following the service

Sunday 8 October

Family Day BBQ with activities for children

*Shabbat service times between Succot and Simchat Torah will be as normal*

## Simchat Torah

Thursday 12 October

Simchat Torah party 6:00pm

Friday 13 October

10:00am Service  
11:00am Yizkor  
Kiddush to follow

Please note there will be a Children's Program on First and Second Day Rosh Hashanah and in the morning on Yom Kippur.

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Website: [www.sbalaw.com](http://www.sbalaw.com)

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Jeffrey Appel OAM

**Partners**  
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Steven Klein  
Jeremy Rosenthal  
Steven Casper  
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Jonathan Hirsh  
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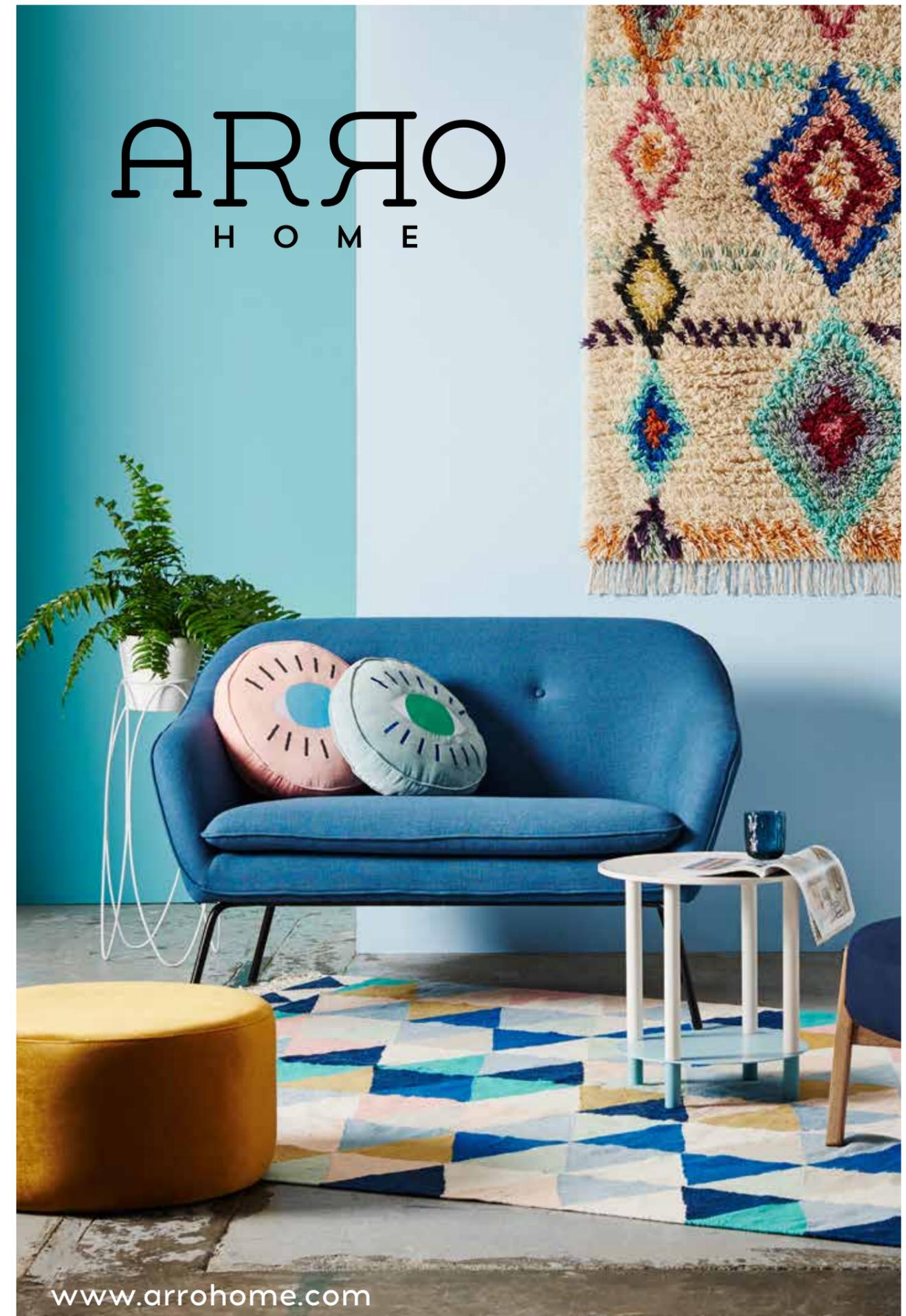
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*Our reason for being*

- Drive maximum productivity and efficiency throughout your operations
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- Ignore the challenges posed by legacy systems and methods
- We provide you the potential to significantly improve bottom line performance and customer service

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*Agnostic and flexible*

- Achieve greater levels of efficiency and automation
- Spend less time on cumbersome operations and focus more what matters most to your business: servicing your customers
- Completely agnostic, Troovo works with nearly any third-party application to automate processes from end-to-end
- Troovo is a powerful alternative to traditional, silo-based automation

**Make your business processes work for you**

*Focus on high value opportunity*

- With a no limits approach to automation, Troovo solves the challenge of simplifying your operations
- We replace unnecessary manual intervention with clean, swift and reliable processes
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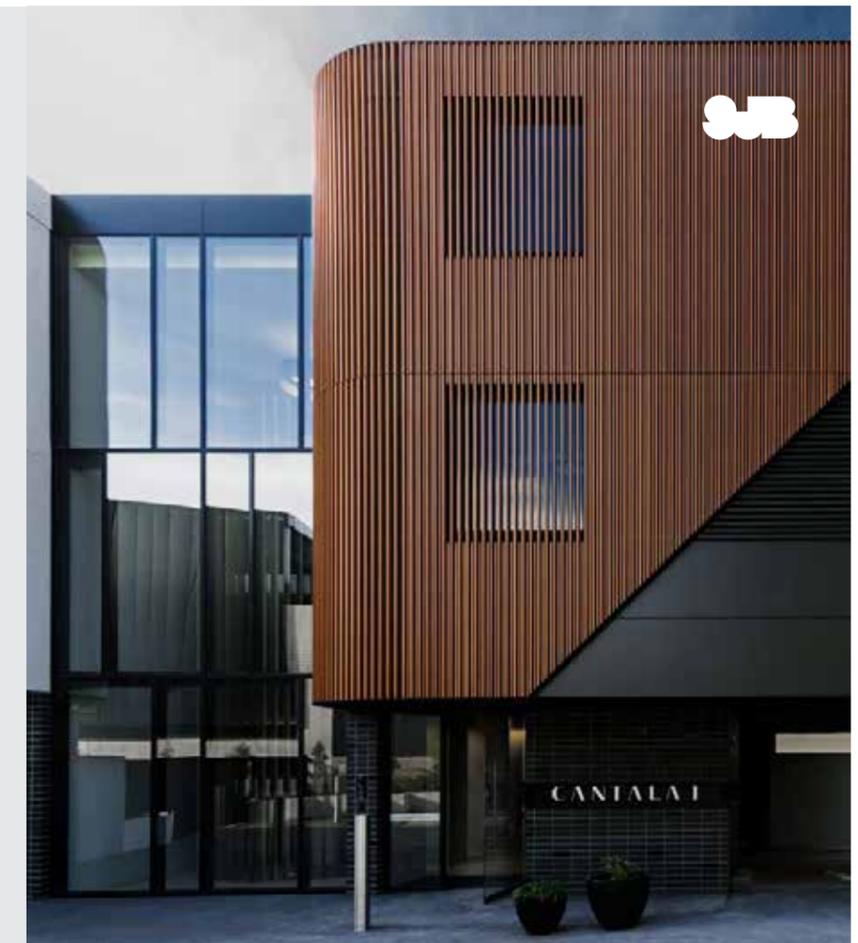
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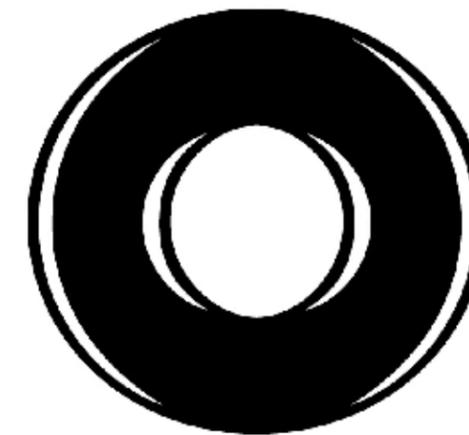
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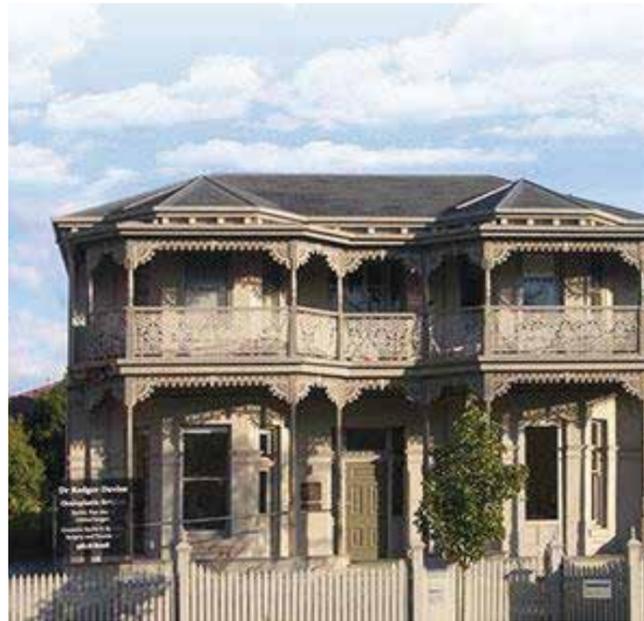
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I wish to donate \_\_\_\_\_ (number) chairs at \$250 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the ARK Centre Library Fund.

Please acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_ (name) on the Honour Board.

Please make cheque out to Auburn Road Centre Library Fund.

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... those who went before us and enriched our lives. You can commemorate family members and other loved ones who are no longer with us by inscribing them on the ARK Centre Yizkor Board.



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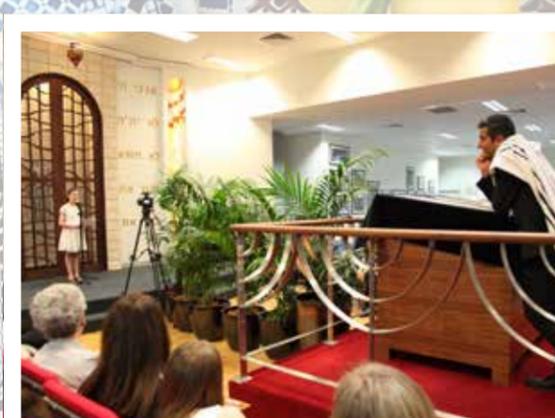
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