

Yeshivah



Beth Rivkah

SCHOOL TIES

September 2018 • תשרי תשע"ט • Tishrei 5779

*Wishing you and your family a
Shana Tova U' Mesukah!*



Current GELC children getting ready for Rosh Hashanah



Beth Rivkah Students
making Rosh Hashanah
cards, circa '98



Elul at Yeshivah, circa '92

The Great Chop

Beth Rivkah's "The Great Chop" is upon us! This incredible initiative seeks to not only raise funds for Zichron Menachem (an organisation in Israel that provides extensive support for children diagnosed with cancer) but for girls to also contribute personally by cutting their hair to enable the organisation to create wigs for children who have lost their hair during cancer treatments.

Large numbers of students, parents and alumni have signed up to cut and donate their hair on 5th September, with our students hoping to raise over \$10,000 for this wonderful organisation.

Donations to this worthy cause are still being accepted via <https://chuffed.org/project/the-great-chop>.



Excitement at the
last Great Chop

Premier's VCE Award 2018

YBR extends Mazal Tov to Chaya Tayar (a 2017 graduate of Beth Rivkah Ladies College) who was the proud recipient of a Premier's VCE Award in Religion & Society, taught by Mrs Chaya Cowen.

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Message From the Principal

In the annual Jewish lifecycle, during the lead up to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur we always reflect on our year, on our lives, and look at the New Year ahead with hopeful optimism.

In a Jewish Lifecycle, looking at the course of one's entire lifespan, the Friediker Rebbe describes schooling, education, as the Shacharis of our lives, and after Shacharis we embark on the journey of the rest of our day, the rest of our post school life.

The point of school is to imbue children with values, love of learning, Torah, Mitzvos and others so they can embark on the rest of their lives with hopeful optimism.

As you page through this edition of School Ties, and are nostalgic about your schooling experiences and highlights, we enjoin you to reminisce about your points of schooling inspiration at Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah; those teachers who showed that extra care and sensitivity, that activity/project/special experience that made such a deep impression or that friend who was truly there for you and take that inspiration as impetus to achieve even greater heights in the year to come.

Once again, we love seeing you as parents, volunteers or staff in our schools. It is so special to celebrate 10 to 40 year reunions with you, and if you haven't had the opportunity recently, we invite you to have a school tour with our Parent Liaison, Michelle Blutman. We are sure you will be filled with pride at where your alma mater has come from and where we are going.

Wishing you a Kesiva, V'chasima Tova, L'Shana Tova U'Mesukah for you, your families and all of Klal Yisroel.

Rabbi Yehoshua Smukler

Principal, Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah Colleges

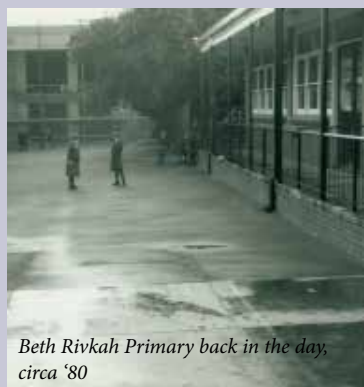


Spigler Family Wing Opens at Beth Rivkah Primary

Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah Colleges took great pleasure in hosting over 300 guests for the official opening of the new Beth Rivkah Primary Wing – The Spigler Family Wing – on Monday June 11 2018.

The morning's welcome addresses were held in the new state-of-the-art 'Loti & Victor Smorgon Family Library', with YBR Principal, Rabbi Yehoshua Smukler, welcoming the guests and expressing the school's appreciation for the generous donors and Federal Government grants that have made this new wing possible. He elucidated that "This building is a true partnership of school, government and community support, it enables us to keep our 'open door' policy and to continue to empower more students with a better future... The new building is a space for exploration and learning, for creativity and discovery."

Guests, ranging from donors, Rabbonim, parents and alumni to grandparents, community members, donors, Government and Council officials enjoyed a tour of the impressive new building – consisting of state-of-the-art classroom facilities, library hub, makerspace, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) centre and breakaway spaces and tutorial room. These facilities are already significantly enhancing the day-to-day learning and opportunities available to our students from Foundation to Year 6 at Beth Rivkah.



Beth Rivkah Primary back in the day, circa '80



During construction of the new BRP wing



Beth Rivkah students at the Move-a-thon launch

YBRPA Update

The Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah Parents' Association (YBRPA) would like to extend thanks to the YBR parents and wider community for assisting us in raising extensive funds through our successful initiatives. Most recently we launched a very successful Move-a-thon to help encourage our students to be active. Funds raised from this campaign as well as our Cocktail events, Soup days, Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls, mango fundraiser and pre-weddings will help improve and enhance our school campuses. To date, money raised has been directed to resurfacing the Beth Rivkah Secondary court and providing the Yeshivah Primary Library with much-needed funds, while money raised from the Move-a-thon will be put towards sports and play equipment across the schools.

Building New Opportunities

Attendees heard inspirational and heartfelt messages from major donors and Senator James Paterson, representing the Australian Federal Government. From the Spotlight Foundation, Morry Fraid AM and Vivienne Fried made mention of their long and close association with YBR (spanning more than 60 years) and their great pleasure in honouring the matriarchs of their family through the donation of the Roth floor, dedicated in memory of Vivienne's late mother.

Senator James Paterson, in attendance to represent the Government's contribution to the building, was struck by the fact that "the vast majority of funds raised to construct the new building were raised from the school community, philanthropists and donors - a tribute to the Yeshivah - Beth Rivkah community." He highlighted Beth Rivkah as a "wonderful example of passion and dedication to education", with its outstanding academic results and its focus of passing on Jewish values to the next generation.

A heartfelt address from Saul Spigler expressed his joy at being a partner in the building and outlined his longstanding support of and connection to the Colleges - with this being his 60th year of association with the Colleges. He dedicated the new Spigler Family Wing in memory of his parents Kalman and Rochel Spigler A"H and his wife Beverly's parents Harry and Betty Rubinstein A"H - who were "inspiring role models of how to lead a Jewish life... [and had a] tremendous... dedication to Jewish continuity and Jewish education." He further conveyed, "We hope their memories and

legacy will live on and be an inspiration to many who will learn and grow in this building."

A video presentation provided a virtual tour through the new facility showing classrooms and makerspace in action, and was punctuated by student impressions of the new learning space. Interactive makerspace rotations were on display for guests to enjoy, after which Saul and Beverly Spigler along with their family took part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony, declaring the building officially open.

Guests enjoyed a morning tea, with many dishes prepared by our very own Year 9 and 10 Culinary Arts students. In addition, students in Year 6 and 7 were instrumental in assisting on the day by ushering guests, waiting on guests and presenting gifts during the formalities. Musical performances from the Beth Rivkah Primary Ensemble, and delightful vocals from the Year 4 Beth Rivkah Choir showcased some of the talented students benefitting from the new building.

Beth Rivkah's new wing will take learning at Beth Rivkah Primary to new heights - with additional classes that will encourage broad thinking, develop communication skills and advance students' collaborative abilities - helping cultivate the thinkers and contributors of tomorrow.

Thank You to all our donors, supporters and partners in this wonderful facility.



The new Spigler Family Wing



Ribbon cutting ceremony



Year 4 Beth Rivkah choir entertains attendees

We look forward to hosting another enjoyable YBRPA End of Year Carnival for YBR students at the close of the 2018 school year. We are seeking volunteers and contributions toward the event. Please contact us via parents@ybr.vic.edu.au if you would like to assist.

Parent volunteers are a vital part of the YBRPA and all the work it does. We are so grateful for the many parent volunteers who have stepped forward over the years, helping the Parents Association grow, raise funds, create school spirit and support our children's education.

YBRPA Committee



Yeshivah Father and Son Move-a-thon Soccer Match

Around Yeshivah - Beth Rivkah

New Holocaust Memorial

A striking new Holocaust Memorial mural to adorn the wall adjacent to the Beth Rivkah Primary playground has been created by Beth Rivkah students in Years 3 – 6. Officially unveiled at a moving ceremony on 9th August, the ceremony included a moving rendition of Shalom Aleichem by the Beth Rivkah Primary Ensemble, recitation of Tehillim by students, unveiling of a plaque dedicating the mural, and we were honoured to have Mrs Schon (a Holocaust survivor) join us to light candles in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

The mural, overseen by Merry from Merry's Mosaics depicts a tree with fallen leaves which have been inscribed with the name and age of a child who perished during the Holocaust. The initial dark colours of the tree, symbolising Winter and despair, brighten to symbolise Spring and hope.



Mrs Schon with granddaughter Ellie Gubiesky (nee Schon '04)

The King is in the Field!

To usher in the month of Elul and as a memorable reminder that “the King is in the field”, students at the GELC and Primary campuses enjoyed a visit by a horse and buggy - with Rabbi Shimmy Weinbaum Head of Tzivos Hashem International and Rabbi Menachem Lipskier of Chabad Youth! Thank you Chabad Youth for making this happen!



The Yeshivah Primary marching band entertains



Volunteer Awards

Mazal Tov to Chumi Franck (nee Slodowitz '92) and Benton Segal for winning the 2018 Caulfield Volunteer Award for the volunteer work that they have been doing over many years at YBR. Chumi has been honoured for her work over many years in the YBR Uniform Shop and Benton for his work with the YBR Parent Security Group.



Transport Assistance

To meet the needs of our school community, YBR launched a transport service to Bentleigh, Moorabbin and surrounding areas early in 2018. The introduction of the service is making YBR even more accessible.



Celebrating With Our Mothers

GELC children were thrilled to welcome their mothers and special guests for morning and afternoon tea events to mark Mother's Day.



Dina White (nee Feiglin '98) with her son Sam



Devorah Leah Goldman (nee Aron '97) with daughter Atara



Ella and Rachelli (nee Elkus '02) Arber

Hachnosso L'Cheder

In a celebration of togetherness and learning, a Hachnosso L'Cheder (marking the time when a young child begins learning Torah with others) was celebrated at the GELC in June.

The students were delighted to be brought in to 'cheder' by their father or grandfather, being wrapped in a tallis, reading the alef-beis and highlighting the sweetness of learning Torah by drizzling honey onto an alef-beis chart and eating honey cake with special pesukim 'engraved' on it.

The boys also partook in eating a hard-boiled egg with special pesukim on it, gave tzedakah and were delighted to be showered with lollies to display the simcha of the event.



Mark Oyberman '04 with his son Yoni



Yehezkul Tuvel '08 with his son Shmuel



Avram Adelstein '98 with his son Hershey

Flowers, Icecream and Cheesecake

A pre-Shavuot evening of inspirational and instructional presentations took centre stage for parents of the YBR Pre-Schools. Alumna Malki Rodal (nee Lever, '09) presented stories of her encounters as part of Chabad of RaRa and incredible recounts of people reconnecting to Judaism.

Hadasah Kraemer of Myrtle Branch and Bud expertly demonstrated how to create beautiful floral centrepiece and provided hints and tips to keep flowers looking fresh and vibrant all year round.

A cooking demonstration by Morah Rachelle Saffer (nee Goldberg, '97) enthralled the audience with expert methods to make icecream in just 10 minutes while Ella Jaffe-Blutman (nee Blutman, '09) mesmerised the crowd with a Cheesecake Challah creation.



Chaia Super, Malki Rodal (nee Lever '09), Ella Jaffe (nee Blutman '09), Mushka Lisker (nee Groner '09)



Chaya Rochel Schachter, Miriam Segal (nee Silberman '99), Miriam Gordon (nee Szwed '99), Amanda Gecelter (nee Blutman '05)

Creating and Connecting

Under the guidance of Year 6 Yeshivah teacher, Rabbi Lazarus, the Year 6 Yeshivah students have buddied up with GELC kinder students to plan, create and maintain a wonderful new veggie garden. Teaching cooperating, coordination and responsibility, the veggie garden is beginning to flourish under the students' care.

To contribute to the garden – plant or monetary donations are welcome – email donate@ybr.vic.edu.au.



Programs that Elevate

Pnimi Program Inspires Change

With an aim to encourage students to continuously strive to improve themselves in areas of Yiddishkeit, Chassidishkeit and Mentschlichkeit, the Pnimi Program was launched for Beth Rivkah Secondary students earlier this year. Run as an informal, optional Jewish Studies program that encourages students to create good habits by taking on hachlatos (resolutions), students have been drawn to the program - with over three quarters of students from Year 7 to 10 signing up to participate.

The Pnimi Program runs across 5 months of the year and is divided into three sections, each of which promotes a 'key area for growth'. In each section, students complete personalised daily checklists and participate in weekly programs to earn points that determine eligibility to win incentive prizes. These incentives reward students' dedication and commitment to improving their Yiddishkeit, Chassidishkeit and Mentschlichkeit and allow them to truly shine from within. A raffle is soon to be drawn to determine the lucky 8 attendees on a trip to New Zealand, and students have already been recipients of amazing prizes such as an Apple watch, iPad and day trips.



Yad L'Ezra Experienced First Hand

Bracha Tsap (nee Oliver '97)

The Yad L'Ezra iVolunteer program was pioneered by Mrs Chava Gurewicz, in the 90's to give love and support to both regular and challenged families. Yad L'Ezra iVolunteer was a unique part of the support network that assisted my family and I during the very short life of my dear brother Refoel Dovid Oliver a'h, who had Cerebral palsy.

The help came from three girls who were completing their VCE at Beth Rivkah graduating in 1993 (Adina Kotler, Jennifer Herman and Ruth Zimmerman). They gave one hour of their precious time every week, playing with Refoel a'h, and taking him on walks outdoors in his wheelchair. As a 13-year old teenager, who spent much time looking after Refoel a'h, I felt cared for. These big school girls wanted to spend time with my cute little brother who had it rough. After Refoel's untimely passing, I too had the privilege to be a volunteer, paying the kindness forward. Now as a mother, I have deep satisfaction that both my daughters Yehudis and Rivkah Rayzl have taken active parts as volunteers and I know that my Sara Rochel is looking forward to joining the ranks next year.

The program is delivered to a very high standard, incorporating sensitivity to recipients along with nurturing and recognition of the volunteers. Efforts such as these ensure that our priceless values of gemilut chassadim (acts of loving-kindness), will thrive. Sincere thanks to past and current volunteers and all the committed individuals who coordinate this incredible program. When one person is helped, this motivates them to give back and to bring the mashiach's arrival much closer.



Bracha Tsap (pictured second from the left with her mother, sister and daughters)



Refoel a'h

Food for Thought

C-Care's 'Soup in a Jar' program caught the imaginations of our Yeshivah Primary students in recent months. Students eagerly volunteered their time to package food for isolated Jewish individuals in the Melbourne community and topped off the jars with some heartfelt handwritten messages for the recipients.

Now in its fourth year, the Yeshivah "Man Up" opt in Bar Mitzvah program continues to inspire our Year 7 students. With Tzedakah being a focus of the program, the students this year have raised over \$2000 for Pantry Packers in Israel. With several months of the year remaining, the students are aiming to raise upwards of \$4000 for this valuable organisation.



Learning Corner

We invite all women (mothers, grandmothers and alumni!) to save the date for the next Yom Iyun morning of learning with a Chanukah flavour, scheduled for **Monday 26th November 2018**. Held in the Beth Rivkah Secondary Beit Midrash, these sessions are sure to inspire.

Remember When?

School Camp Then and Now



Musical Developments



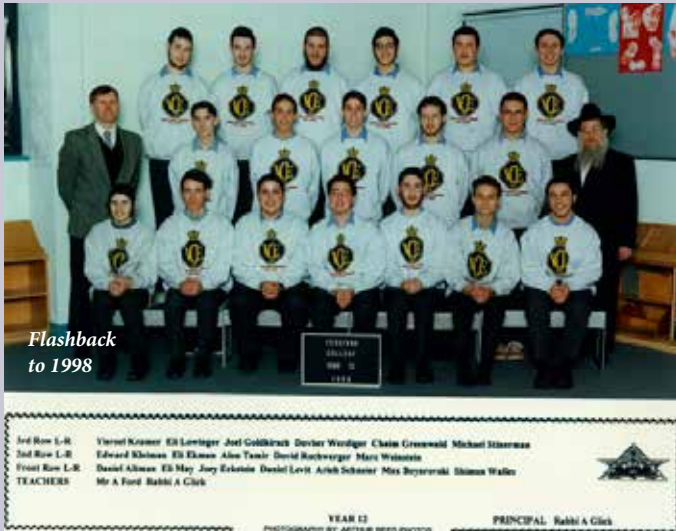
Music at YBR has come leaps and bounds. From its humble beginnings, we now have a thriving YBR Music Department that continues to develop and improve under the direction of Elana Bernstein, Head of Music and Jaclyn Lanera, Instrumental Music Co-ordinator along with their 9 music staff. To complement the in-class music lessons, over 130 students elect to take part in private weekly music lessons (and can choose from more than 10 instruments!), and have opportunities to undertake music examinations, perform at Soiree gatherings, for nursing home residents and at school assemblies.

A lunchtime music club and the popular Year 5 Instrumental Program at Beth Rivkah engages and absorbs students in music and at Yeshivah the music offerings continue to expand – with a Yeshivah Secondary Ensemble taking shape at the beginning of this year. Children at the GELC kinders take part in vibrant and educational music sessions each week, capably taught by Morah Zehava Herzog, with instruments, props and musical concepts integrated into the lessons.



Reunions

Yeshivah College Class of 1998 20 Year Reunion



Yeshivah College Class of 2008 10 Year Reunion



Beth Rivkah Ladies College Class of 2008 -10 Year Reunion



School Triumphant in Annual School vs Old Boys Basketball Match

Yossi Frenkel - Volunteer Yeshivah Secondary Basketball Coach, Alumni '99

A School vs Old Boys basketball battle held in May pitted youth against experience, with the Yeshivah High School Basketball team reclaiming the Yitz Rosen Z"l Cup for the second time in 3 years. The win for the school, as pointed out in Principal Rabbi Smukler's post-match address, is a harbinger for the youth leading the way with strong values and fearlessness, both of which were qualities embodied by Yitz Rosen Z"l.



Old Boys Team: Zevi Gestetner ('13), Dovi Paltiel ('13), Levi Teleshevsky ('15), Meir New ('15), Yossi Frenkel ('99), Raf Mihalovich ('15), Zev Joseph ('15)



School Team: Back row L to R: Reuvi Zeimer, Aron Welis, Nochum Kahn, Yisroel Oyberman, Eli Aron, Naftoli Roth, Shimi Pacanowski, Liam Fraser, Liam Maman, Eli Kornhauser and Alon Mirochnik is seated in the front

Save the date!

Yeshivah College - Class of 1978 - 40 Year Reunion
Sunday 16th September, 2018

YBR would love to help facilitate your Class Reunion.

Please email us: (sara.k@ybr.vic.edu.au) with your name (including maiden name if applicable), graduating year and contact details and we'll be in touch!

Evening of Learning to Commemorate the 10th Yartzeit of Rabbi Groner OBM



The tenth yartzeit of Rabbi Yitzchok Dovid Groner OBM, was marked with an evening of learning held at the Goldhirsch Hall on Sunday evening 17 June/4 Tammuz.

Torah learning was a core value of Rabbi Groner's and he would spend hours a day engrossed in one of the many seforim from the library surrounding his study desk. A giant in Torah learning, Rabbi Groner taught many Shiurim and always took a special interest in what children were learning at school.

Five shiurim were given simultaneously by engaging and inspirational speakers. Mrs Beruria Tenenbaum (nee Greenbaum '90) delivered a fascinating shiur on 'Faith and Faithfulness'. Topics addressed were areas of great passion to Rabbi Groner. These included leadership and the responsibility of each individual to be a leader in one's own life. A deeper insight into ahavat Yisroel, and one's faith and connection with G-d.

Following the shiurim Rabbi Moshe Kahn addressed the 250 strong crowd about the care Rabbi Groner had for each individual. Marcus Solomon QC reminisced of his personal experiences with Rabbi Groner and the dedication and devotion he showed towards Jewish education.

A short video presentation reminded the crowd of the vivacious life force that was Rabbi Groner. A giant of a human being with a heart to match. Rabbi Groner was instrumental in changing the face of Melbourne Jewry, and has left behind a great legacy in the Yeshivah and Beth Rivkah Colleges and the vibrant Chabad community of Melbourne.



In Memorium



ע"ה Reb Yekusiel Broh

אוהב שלום
ורודף שלום,
אוהב את
הבריות ומקרבת
לתורה

"Love peace and chase after peace. Love G-d's creations and bring them closer to Torah."

Reb Yekusiel Broh, son of Boruch and Clara, a"h younger brother to Helga a"h, was born on the cusp of World War Two in 1929. With the foresight of his father, following the events of Kristallnacht in 1938, the family was lucky enough to escape Nazi persecution and flee to Shanghai, Japanese-occupied China. Despite being a mere nine years old at the time, Reb Yekusiel would often vividly describe what he had witnessed during this dark period in Jewish History.

Following their escape from the European continent, Reb Yekusiel joined the Mir Yeshivah in Shanghai and at the conclusion of the war, continued his learning in New York. Whilst learning in Mir and fluent in four languages, he was secretly called upon by the Israeli government to translate Nazi war criminal, Adolf Eichmann's personal diaries (leading to his arrest and capture in 1962).

Despite becoming ordained as a Rabbi, Reb Yekusiel would only go by the name of 'Mr. Broh,' a testament to his humility and unassuming nature. Whilst in New York, his family had relocated to Melbourne,

Australia. His dear friend and mentor, publisher of chiddushim of Rishonim manuscripts, R' Moshe Yehudah Blau, the brother in law of Rabbi Chodokov, suggested he go to 770 to ask the Rebbe advice on whether he should join them in far-off Melbourne. During yechidus, he questioned whether he should join his family as 'there were only sheep in Australia, no Torah!' The Rebbe replied, 'אויך אין אוסטרליא קען מען איינארדענען זיך באהלה של תורה' - 'Also in Australia, one can set himself up in the tents of Torah.' The Rebbe also reassured him he would be able to find a shidduch in far-flung Australia.

With the Rebbe's blessing, Reb Yekusiel set out for Australia, where he met and married a young woman named Tikva Kantor. Together they were fortunate to build a beautiful Torah observant home and had four children: Leor, Tali, Gilly and Eli a"h.

Reb Yekusiel Broh began teaching at the Adass Yisroel school in Melbourne, before he later joined the newly created Yeshivah College where he would devote the rest of his life to teaching its students. Reb Yekusiel Broh would spend close to 60 years teaching and educating the next generation of Australian Jewry in Yeshivah. Often, past students would recall the influence that his warmth, vibrancy and love for Torah and Yiras Shamayim that shined through his teaching would have on them in their lives. After the collapse of the USSR, when Melbourne received an influx of Eastern European refugees, Reb

Yekusiel was instrumental in teaching and aiding these refugee children in learning the basics of Yiddishkeit. He would teach these students Aleph Beis and build up their knowledge and skills in Judaism, with the same love and devotion he treated all those around him as if they were his own biological children.

Together with his wife Tikva they created an open house and worked ceaselessly to educate men, women and children, having private shiurim, learning with his grandchildren, and inviting countless guests to eat at their home over the years. During his last few years, Reb Yekusiel lived in Gary Smorgon House and was greatly loved by the staff due to his gentle, loving and quiet nature. Throughout his life, he shied away from mechlokes, instead focusing on healing rifts and bringing peace back into people's lives.

It is a difficult task to convey such a beautiful, learned, peaceful and gentle man that Reb Yekusiel was in a few short paragraphs.

However, all those who knew him, his countless students, friends and family will forever remember him with much love and his teachings will continue to live on as his pupils pass their knowledge, love of Torah and the Aybishter onto the next generation.

May his memory be blessed.

יהי זכרו ברוך



Rebbetzin Devorah Groner ע"ה

Loving tributes flowed in for Rebbetzin Devorah Groner A"H who passed away on Sunday 13 Sivan, 5778 at age 92. Fondly known as "Bubby" by those close to her, Rebbetzin Groner, wife of Rabbi Yitzchok Dovid Groner A"H (who passed away in 2008), was a mother, grandmother and great grandmother to many. As an emissary of the Rebbe she became a stalwart of the Melbourne Jewish Community – a beacon of light for those who were seeking connection. She was "a lady who never stepped into the spotlight but who played a huge part in shaping Jewish life in Australia". (Chani Majesky)

She was scrupulous in her mitzvah observance, she loved to sing and laugh, and adored telling stories about her beloved and revered Rebbes and anecdotes from her life. The Rebbetzin's granddaughter Chana Slavin was quoted as saying "She was a very religious woman but she had no judgment of anyone else and no expectations of anyone else. She always saw the good in people."

Born in Smolensk, Russia, in 1926 to devoted Chabad Chassidim Rabbi Chaim Tzvi and Breina Konikov her family migrated to the United States when she was 4 years old. The difficulties she experienced as migrant to the United States and into an English speaking kindergarten allowed her to relate personally, many years later, to other migrant children enrolled in Yeshivah and Beth Rivkah. She took great strides to help ease their transition to Australia and empathised with their migrant experience.

She took on several teaching positions in her younger years, including teaching the first class in the Beth Rivkah school in Brooklyn, founded by the Chabad-Lubavitch Rebbe, Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn A"H, and headed by Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson A"H. After consultation with the Rebbe, she was instrumental in introducing lessons on Judaism for Jewish children in public schools, to mirror those of their Catholic counterparts. These early efforts quickly grew into the Released Time Program, directed by Chabad-Lubavitch's National Committee for Furtherance of Jewish Education, which was closely overseen

and spurred on by the Rebbe. Thousands of Jewish children receive weekly doses of Jewish education and inspiration until this day from the program. (COLlive)

In 1946, she married Rabbi Yitzchok Dovid Groner, and the following year the newly married rabbi was sent by the Rebbe on a spiritual tour of Australia and New Zealand "to assess the religious needs of the Jewish communities that were growing rapidly through an influx of European immigrants after the Holocaust."

After receiving an encouraging letter from the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rebbetzin Groner was instrumental in helping persuade her husband to commit to a long-term leadership role in Australia. "The task of inspiring people is a necessity, and this—awakening people—is ikar ha'ikrim [the main part]," wrote the Rebbe.

With their "fearless and unabashed dedication to Jewish activism, and their boundless love for every Jew" (COLlive) in 1958 the Groners moved to Australia and bolstered the existing Jewish framework in Melbourne, ultimately building thriving institutions that have since educated tens of thousands of Jewish children over the six decades since their arrival.

As the Melbourne Jewish community grew, she remained involved in the lives hundreds of individuals, "patiently listening and supporting with gentle advice and guidance". (COLlive) While her husband built organizations and schools, she built people and families (COLlive) with a patience allowed her to encourage, support and teach many people who discovered Judaism late in life. Rebbetzin Groner was involved in Nshei Chabad – the organisation specifically for Chabad women.

Rabbi Shimshon Yurkowicz described his late mother-in-law

as "a very modest, dedicated, devoted shlucha [emissary]... She always had a smile on her face, her home was open, she had guests every Shabbos" – exemplifying Chabad's well-known warm and inclusive approach. Countless individuals benefitted from the regular classes for men and women held at the Groner's home, both on Shabbos and on weekdays.



Rabbi and Rebbetzin Groner remained devoted to their mission as emissaries of the Rebbe throughout their lives. Rebbetzin Groner touched the hearts and minds of many who have "so many special memories of her". Rebbetzin Groner's granddaughter, Chana Groner Chana Groner expressed, "It is the end of an era for my family and the Melbourne Jewish Community" and reflected that "Bubby never gave up despite very difficult challenges throughout her life... May she inspire us always." She will be fondly remembered and sorely missed by the Chabad community and the wider Melbourne Jewish community alike.

After the levaya in Melbourne, Rebbetzin Groner was laid to rest in early June next to her late husband on Har Hazeitim (Mount of Olives) in Jerusalem.

May her memory be blessed.

Adapted from articles by M Posner, published May 28 2018 on Chabad.org and COLlive and also excerpts sourced from the AJN.





Hatches and Matches

Births

Harley '93 and Rachel **Ash** on the birth of a daughter
Avremel & Mushky '09 (nee Gordon) **Raskin** on the birth of a daughter
Yehuda & Chaya '99 (nee Gutnick) **Hoch** on the birth of a son
Moish '02 and Helene **Ross** on the birth of a son
David & Penina '01 (nee Lazar) **Lamm** on the birth of a son
Pesach & Chana '00 (nee Shusterman) **Zirkind** on the birth of a daughter
Meir & Simcha '00 (nee Greenbaum) **Lipskier** on the birth of a daughter
Rowan & Tova '11 (nee Watts) **Epstein** on the birth of a son
Adam & Miriam '03 (nee Grossman) **Feldman** on the birth of a son
Marc & Avital '08 (nee Waller) **Seifman** on the birth of a son
Dovie & Miriam '01 (nee Ash) **Smith** on the birth of a daughter
Berri '09 & Pessy '03 (nee Raitman) **Wajsbort** on the birth of a son
Isser '08 & Mushka **Kluwgan** on the birth of a daughter
Heshy & Dassy '06 (nee Henenberg) **Hoffinger** on the birth of a son
Yoni '02 & Dafna **Garfield** on the birth of twin boys
Moshe & Rivky (nee Gordon) **Cyruinik** on the birth of a son
Levi '04 & Chayeh Mushke **Heidingsfeld** on the birth of a daughter
Aron '06 & Mussie **Karp** on the birth of a son
Binyomin '05 & Chana **Gordon** on the birth of a son
Pinny '10 & Tali '14 (nee Teller) **Koth** on the birth of a son
Chaim '11 & Chaya **Pinczower** on the birth of a daughter
Alex & Anna (nee Cohen) **Niazov** on the birth of a son
Oren & Dina '02 (nee Glick) **Shimoni** on the birth of a daughter
Gabi '08 & Mushka **Kaltmann** on the birth of a daughter
Osher '04 & Itta **Broh** on the birth of a daughter
Yitzzy & Chomi '00 (nee Grossbaum) **Schreiber** on the birth of a son
Daniel & Tali '96 (nee Szentel) **Houseman** on the birth of a daughter
Mendi '10 & Mussie '14 (nee Shapiro) **Rosenbaum** on the birth of a daughter
David & Tehilla '05 (nee Brown) **Lewin** on the birth of a son
Velly & Chanchkie '04 (nee Jurkiewicz) **Slavin** on the birth of a son
Mendy & Shayna '03 (nee Loebenstein) **Nagel** on the birth of a son
Dovid '97 & Rachel **Gutnick** on the birth of a son
Meyron & Miriam '09 (nee Glick) **Perets** on the birth of a son
Yale & Rickelle '06 (nee Loebenstein) **New** on the birth of a son
Pinny & Frumie (nee Shusterman) **Levitin** on the birth of a son
Mendy '05 & Lifshy **Ajzenszmidt** on the birth of a son
Daniel and Ariella '10 (nee Klein) **Jones** on the birth of a daughter
Tzvi '10 & Masha **Rimler** on the birth of a daughter
Yossi '98 & Goldie **Grossbaum** on the birth of a son
Yisroel and Rebecca '05 (nee Schwartz) **Hoffmann** on the birth of twins, a daughter and a son
Gavriel & Shoshana (nee Castel) **Levin** on the birth of a son
Dovid Leib '02 & Nechama **Shmerling** on the birth of a daughter
Moshe Zalman '02 & Chani **Kaminetzky** on the birth of a daughter

Adam '93 & Ruth '92 (nee Mehlman) **Ruschinek** on the birth of a son
Shaya & Sarah '07 (nee Felberbaum) **Weinstock** on the birth of a son
Peretz & Shternie '08 (nee Klein) **Schapiro** on the birth of a daughter
Reuben '06 & Devora **Klein** on the birth of a son
Yechiel '95 & Chanie **Belfer** on the birth of a son
Binny & Rivka '01 (nee Grossman) **Klein** on the birth of a son
Ami & Zisi '98 (nee Gordon) **Meyers** on the birth of a son
Sholom Ber & Leah '10 (nee Kramer) **Cowen** on the birth of a daughter
Gil & Chevie (nee Rimler) **Holland** on the birth of a daughter
Reuven & Mina '15 (nee Gurewicz) **Kubannek** on the birth of a son
Eli '00 & Shevy **Kaminetsky** on the birth of a daughter
Ari & Chana '07 (nee Gutnick) **Herzog** on the birth of a daughter
Mordi '01 & Suri **Adelist** on the birth of a son
Betzael & Leora '08 (nee Castel) **Horwitz** on the birth of a son
Yudi & Rickel '06 (nee Greenbaum) **Green** on the birth of a son
Shmuel '04 & Miri **Loebenstein** on the birth of a son
Levi '02 & Dena **Blecher** on the birth of a daughter
Yossi & Ester '98 (nee Gorelik) **Potash** on the birth of a daughter
Leibel & Mushka '14 (nee Edelman) **Eidelman** on the birth of a son
Dov '94 & Nicole **Paluch** on the birth of a daughter
Ariel & Miriam '99 (nee Silberman) **Segal** on the birth of a daughter
Shlomo '94 & Shoshi **Aron** on the birth of a daughter
Ovadia and Moussia '07 (nee Szmerling) **Antian** on the birth of a son
Zalman and Tali '02 (nee Nossbaum) **Ainsworth** on the birth of a son
Binyomin '03 and Ilana **Susskind** on the birth of a son
Shmuel and Devora '06 (nee Raitman) **Hurwitz** on the birth of a daughter
Moti and Esther '04 (nee Trebish) **Kassai** on the birth of a son

Engagements/Marriages

Ari **Werdgier** '11 & Batsheva **Vogel**
Maor **Tiri** & Chani **Moshel** '07
Jake **Weiner** & Minna **Pacanowski** '09
Shmuel Baruch **Guetta** & Sara **Hecht**
Yonatan **Rubinstein** & Toby **Holzer** '15
Chani **Nutovics** '15 & Mendy **Eizicovics**
Nadav **Moskow** '13 & Zesie **Vorchheimer**
Alex **Robinson** & Zahava **Rosenblum** '13
Yossi **Gopin** '13 & Shifra **Kornhauser** '15
Levi **Rosenbaum** '10 & Dina **Wajsbort** '15
Shlomo **Rabin** & Aliza **Teller** '13
Chanie **Liberow** '14 & Menachem **Simon**
Mendy **Reicher** '13 & Chana **Hellinger**
Yoel **Serebryanski** & Mushky **Plotkin**
Shloimi **Cohen** & Rochi **Joseph** '15
Yossi **Douek** '00 & Yocheved **Epstein** '00
Shimsie **Teitelman** & Sarah **Lewis** '12
Dovid **Zaltzman** to Shternie **Morozow** '11

We compile our announcements
from information supplied
to YBR and Community
Announcements.
We apologise for any errors or
omissions. To notify us of your
news please email:
announcements@ybr.vic.edu.au

Orientation for Kinder 2019

There are a still few more GELC Orientation sessions scheduled for 2018, for children entering kinder in 2019. Enrol now to ensure your child takes part in these valuable introductory sessions. Call Michelle Blutman, Parent Liaison, on 9522 8222 or email: Michelle.Blutman@ybr.vic.edu.au.



New Post-Seminary Learning

Beth Rivkah Beit Midrash in conjunction with Ohel Chana are launching a learning program specifically for local alumni girls. Shiurim and lessons will be high calibre, text based, stimulating and inspirational, with plans underway to have learning two nights a week as well as social get-togethers and events. Stay tuned for our launch in October!

For more information please contact: Yael.schneider@ybr.vic.edu.au or
Rabbi Tenenbaum: rabbi.t@ohelchana.edu.au.

Help Enhance Our Schools

Contributions towards improving our children's learning facilities and opportunities are always appreciated.

Please contact us at donate@ybr.vic.edu.au to contribute or for more information.

Your Memories

If you've stumbled across some old school photos we'd love to see them!

Email: alumni@ybr.vic.edu.au

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