

MELBOURNE

CAIRNS

COFFS HARBOUR

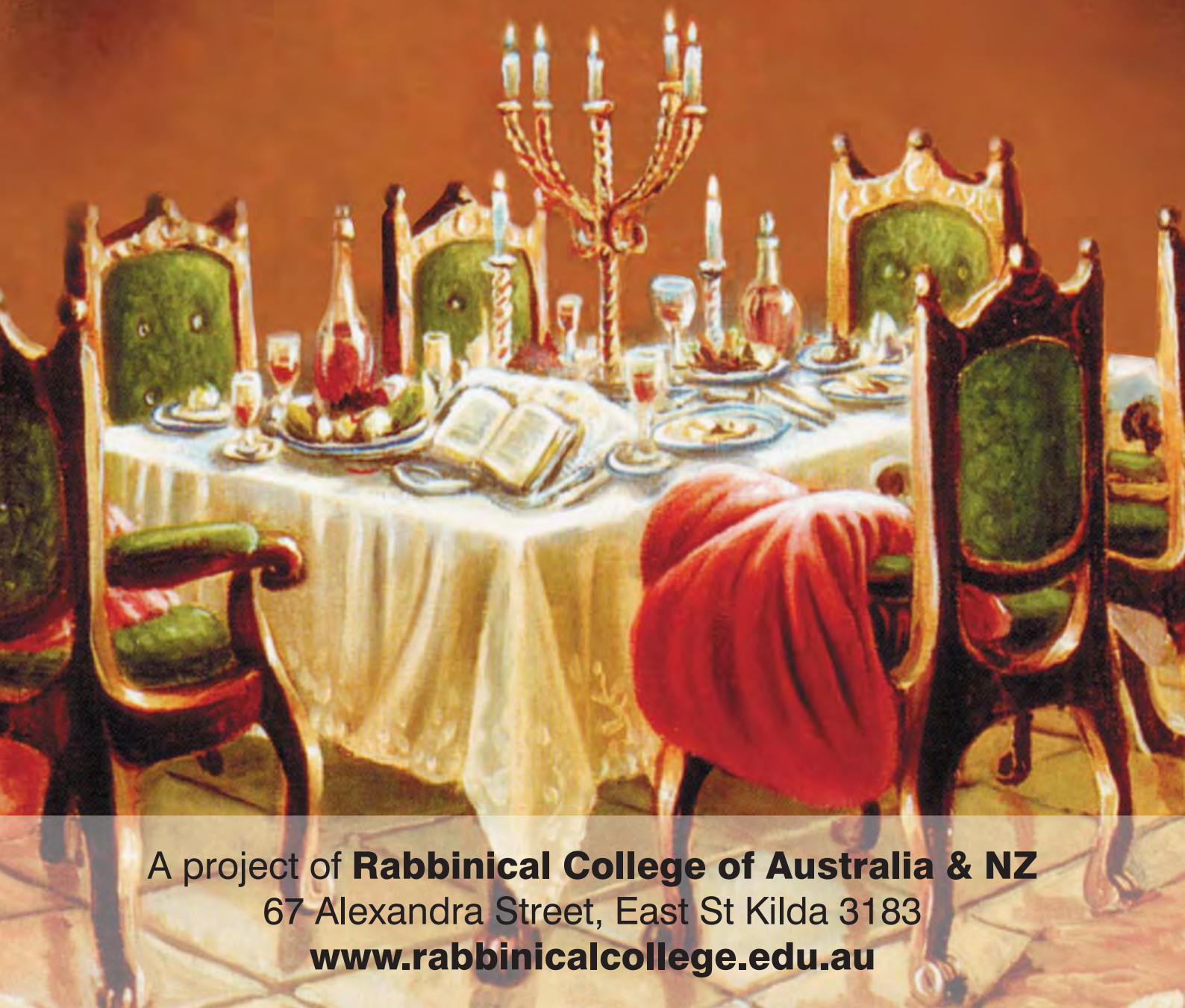
DARWIN

FREMANTLE

כ"ד

PASSOVER AUSTRALIA

Annual Report
5771 / 2011



A project of **Rabbinical College of Australia & NZ**
67 Alexandra Street, East St Kilda 3183
www.rabbinicalcollege.edu.au

PassoverAustralia

All Around Town

RESERVED FOR YOU!
MONDAY, APRIL 18
Please R.S.V.P.

DON'T PASS OVER GET A TASTE OF FREEDOM
MONDAY, APRIL 18
TUESDAY, APRIL 19
JOIN US
Sponsored fee: \$20

don't pass over PASSOVER
MONDAY, APRIL 18 - TUESDAY, APRIL 19
SAVE THE DATES
NOW HOLDING PUBLIC SEDERS IN SIX LOCATIONS
BYRON BAY
0425 225 757
byronpassover@gmail.com
CAIRNS
04 3302 6117
cairnspassover@gmail.com
COFFS HARBOUR
04 3039 5770
coffsseder@gmail.com

GET A TASTE OF FREEDOM
MONDAY, APRIL 18
MELBOURNE'S PUBLIC PASSOVER

Reserved for You
A project of Rabbinical College of Australia and N.Z.
MELBOURNE, Moshe Wolvovsky,
03 9530 3022
MONDAY, APRIL 18
TUESDAY, APRIL 19
PassoverMelbourne@gmail.com
Seder fee for Melbourne: \$20
HOLDING PUBLIC SEDERS AT OTHER LOCATIONS
CAIRNS, Mendi Kesselman
04 3302 6117
cairnspassover@gmail.com
FREMANTLE, Hirschel Gourarie
04 2590 5660

passover AUSTRALIA
Choose a city: Byron Bay Cairns Coffs Harbour Darwin Fremantle Melbourne
Passover Australia brings the Festival of Freedom to you!
If you are searching for an unforgettable and traditional Passover experience, look no further. Passover Australia aims to meet the needs of Jews all over Australia, and in previous years, our efforts have met with resounding success. Our young traveling rabbis are experienced at conducting Pesach Seders Australia-wide, and are currently servicing the following cities: Byron Bay, Cairns, Coffs Harbour, Darwin, Fremantle, and Melbourne. In addition to the Seders, our rabbis travel through the Great Australian Outback in order to provide vital Jewish services, such as tefillin and mezuzot, to all who require it.
To attend your nearest communal Seder, please contact us. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please don't hesitate to share them with us. We look forward to hearing from you!

What is Passover?
The eight-day festival of Passover is celebrated in the early spring, from the 15th through the 22nd of the...
[Read More](#)

About Passover Australia
Passover Australia was founded in 1999 by the students of the Rabbinical College of Australia and New Zealand.
[Read More](#)

Find a Seder
Chabad offers Pesach seders internationally.
For more information, please contact your nearest Chabad House.
[Find a Seder Near You](#)

Project of the Rabbinical College of Australia and N.Z.
67 ALDERIDGE STREET

www.PassoverAustralia.com.au

About Passover Australia



A suggestion was once put forth to have a symbolic empty chair at the Seder, representing Jews unable to participate in a Seder.

**The Rebbe asked: Why empty?
Find a Jew and seat him in that chair!**

Dear Friends,

The warmth and light of the Rebbe's teachings are the driving force behind the Passover Australia project, and our inspiration in encouraging all fellow Yidden to draw ever closer to our Father in heaven.

The Passover Australia project was organised under the auspices of the Rabbinical College of Australia & New Zealand (Yeshivah Gedolah). For the very first time, Passover Australia hosted a Seder here in Melbourne, at Yeshivah Gedolah's home on Alexandra Street. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the warm and welcoming atmosphere.

Our achievements were only possible due to our partnership with the local community in Melbourne, Merkos Linyonei Chinuch in New York, and others from abroad. Many of our partners donated anonymously, either via our website or by post, without even being solicited. To these partners we say: We don't know your names, but we do know that your fine character exemplifies the fabric of this great community.

Our networking with Chabad organizations both in Melbourne and abroad, and most significantly with Chabad of RARA, enabled us to reach many more Jewish families, and to achieve a far greater and longer-lasting impact.

We are thankful for the privilege of being part of the Passover Australia success story, for spreading the teachings of Yiddishkeit in general and the wellsprings of Chassidus in particular, and for further hastening the Geulah. We hope and pray that this year's Passover Australia is truly the last, and that next year we merit the celebration of Passover Jerusalem instead, with the true and complete redemption speedily in our days.

Passover Australia



*Top row (from right to left)
Hirschel Gourarie, Menachem Mendel Begun, Shimon Yisrael Dubinsky,
Yehuda Zaltzman, Yisroel Halon, Nochum Greenwald, Levi Liberow, Mendy Kesselman*

*Bottom row (from right to left)
Shmuel Lipskier, Yitzchok Einstein, Menachem Mendel Polter,
Nochum Greenberg, Moshe Arye Wolvovsky*

Melbourne

New Location



WHEN IT CAME time to start organizing this year's "Passover Australia" arrangements, to ensure that our activities would benefit as many Jews as possible throughout Australia, it only made sense that the question should be brought to the table; "Are we indeed reaching the max?" It was time to start thinking differently; it was time to start thinking a bit out of the box. It was time to start thinking close to home...

Melbourne, Australia - The home of a Jewish community consisting of approximately 60,000, the city which is also home to the largest number of holocaust survivors of any Australian city, definitely deserved a public Passover Seder. Thank G-d, this was no easy task, due to the warmth and open arms of the Melbourne Jewish community, many Jews already have a seat at the comfortable home of a fellow Jewish family.

As followers of the Rebbe, "outreach" is more than merely an annual practice. Not a week goes by in the life of the average Chabad boy in which he does not take a few hours to meet Jews in their shops or on the street, help them put on Tefillin, impart some inspirational words of Torah, or just wish them a good Shabbos. So, contacting Jews to invite them to a Seder is not too tough. All it takes is to let the Yeshivah Gedolah boys know; "Get the word out!"

"Oh, I do it at home, but I have a friend who might be interested, I'll pass on the message" - Comments like this were the replies heard by almost all the Yeshivah Gedolah boys

on their weekly routes. Billboards went up, emails were sent, and indeed the phone began to ring.

The objective was clear; get each Jew to the proper chair. "We are American Jews, currently studying in Melbourne University" reads one email, "we are looking for a Passover Seder." All it took was the push of the "forward" button, and "Chabad on Campus" had them covered.

Situations like this gave us the opportunity to make the connection between the searching Jew and his reserved spot at the Seder. But we knew without a doubt, our job had only begun.

The days leading up to the big night were quite hectic, we spent much of the time visiting Jews in their homes, delivering them hand-made Shmurah Matzah, and finding out who still does not have a place where to celebrate the festival of freedom together with fellow Jews. The many happy faces which greeted us, gave us moral support, and helped us gain momentum in our endeavor.

As for the rest of the time, we still had to confirm; who still needs a Seder? Emailing, calling, whatever it takes. We were only days away...

After restless nights of arrangements, it was the day before Pesach, hours before the Seder would commence. Our cook, someone who has already had much experience in the field of preparing good tasting, strictly kosher Passover food, was hard at work, ensuring that every participant of the Seder would leave with a good taste. A group of dedicated local Yeshivah Gedolah students rolled up their sleeves to peel the many fruits and vegetables needed for the Seder. Another group of students kindly offered their help preparing the Yeshivah Gedolah building on Alexandra St. where we would be conducting the Seder.

With gratitude to the Seifman family we were able to decorate the Yeshivah study hall with beautiful bouquets of flowers and plants. And

together with our fancy hired chair covers, the elegant looking room was fit for celebration.

The sun was setting, and Pesach was underway. Slowly, our guests showed up, all with a deep Passover feeling. Something was different, and as the women welcomed the holiday by lighting the Yom-Tov candles, a spirit of Holiness filled the air!

As we gathered around the table, I couldn't help myself thinking; "Amazing! Never have I been in a room with such a diverse combination of people." From Melbourne, Perth, New York, Pennsylvania, Chicago, Poland, Uzbekistan, and beyond. Ashkenaz or Sefard, regardless of background, they all felt at home.

Throughout the duration of the night, the variety of customs and childhood memories presented by our guests, added much spice to our comfortable family oriented Seder. "I remember my father would hide the Afikoman from me and my sister" said a Jew from America. "At home, we used to say the 'Ma Nishtanah' in this tune..." said another Jew, originating from Poland.

"Whether you do better with grape juice or wine, just be sure to recline." We began our Seder by honouring one of our guests to recite the Kiddush, in which we sanctify this holy day and give thanks to G-d for bringing us to this most joyous occasion.

The Haggadah, in which we retell the Passover miracle, is unfortunately often perceived to be a rather boring ritual, but not here, and not now. At the Melbourne public Passover Seder each participant felt free to comment, add or ask at any given moment, thereby fulfilling the words of our holy rabbis; "Whoever elaborates when retelling the story of the exodus from Egypt - is praiseworthy!"

Moshe Arye Wolvovsky
Levi Liberow

Cairns

Queensland



CHICKEN TICK, fish tick, maror tick, and the list goes on. Our baggage packed, it was early Tuesday morning and we were on the way to the airport, destination – Cairns, for a week of merkos shlichus and then on to Pesach for a grand Passover seder. Phone calls were made, invitations were sent out and things were looking good. We arrived in Cairns, rented a car and drove off to the place where we were staying. Next stop Mr. Kamzler's hotel, to pick up our storage of antique Pesach dishes, that have been passed down from generation to generation of shluchim, each shliach leaving his mark. Pots, pans, knives, yarmulkes and haggados - it's all there. We hit the roads of Cairns armed with our tefillin, mezuzos and Jewish books; Shimon driving (apparently in Australia they drive on the left side of the road) Mendy on the phone "shalom how are you ... looking forward to seeing you on Monday night at the Passover seder...." sure enough the list started growing; Israelis, Americans, a few English tourists, some Melbournites, a group of back packers and of course the Cairns locals. We were looking forward to a real international seder with real Jewish unity.

Our first visit was Yuda's office - what a surprise Kobi was also there. We wrapped them up in tefillin and sat down to talk, to find out about any more Jews in Cairns that might not be on our list. After a l'chaim and some divrei torah we were on our way.

Wednesday: Wow what a day! We went to visit a family in Yungabara and enjoyed a very scenic drive through the beautiful mountains of Queensland.

Thursday: in the afternoon we went to pick up Shaul Yachad and Berel Popack from the airport. They were joining the team in Cairns. Thank you both for all your hard work.

Thursday night 7:00 we had a shiur in our apartment, we pulled out some kosher refreshments, the wafers were definitely the favorite, and the learning began "Passover is a celebration of our exodus from Egypt. But how did we get to Egypt in the first place?!? Well there once was a man named Abraham, then came Isaac, Jacob and then Joseph..." "Wow that's amazing, but does that have anything to do with me?" Out came the chassidus "each one of us has a G-dly soul and an animal soul..." two and a half hours later we could feel Pesach was coming to Cairns, full speed ahead.

Friday: we were planning a Shabbos meal for Friday night in honor of yud aleph Nissan. Friday afternoon we rolled up our sleeves and started frying fish, cooking chicken and making soup, after a quick phone call for some exact instructions. It smells like Shabbos. Just as Shabbos began we were joined by our Shabbos guests (some Israeli locals) Yuda, Boaz, Uzzi and Yarev. We started with Kabbolas Shabbos and on to Kiddush, then washed and sat down to our gourmet meal, (by professional chefs, with a few years of merkos shlichus cooking under their belt.) Divrei torah, songs and stories of the Rebbe, it was a real inspiring yud aleph Nissan farbrengen. A real display of the Rebbe's effect on the entire world, here we were sitting in Cairns, feeling the spirit of Shabbos and the warmth of yiddishkeit.

Motzei Shabbos: it's time to get busy getting ready for Pesach, clean the apartment, scrub the floors, the shelves, cover the whole place in silver foil and kasher the sinks (hope the smoke alarm doesn't go off) and finally unpack the Pesach boxes and dishes.

Sunday morning: we went to visit Jack, an elderly man living by himself in an old age home with absolutely no

family. We felt truly honoured to fulfill the mitzvah of ahavas yisroel in such an enormous and real way. Realizing our whole trip was worth it just with these few short hours, we put on tefillin with him and left him some matzah. We left feeling truly inspired from this proud Jew.

These are just a few of the visits and experiences which made this trip, the trip we will never forget.

Sunday afternoon we started preparing for Pesach. First: vegetable shopping, why were people looking at us? I mean what's the big deal about two men in hats and jackets buying; 35 cucumbers, 17 kg potatoes, I can't remember how many tomatoes, 11 heads of cos lettuce, 30 bottles of water and other stuff. Our car loaded, we headed back to the apartment where we got busy peeling potatoes and cooking gefilte fish - the seder was starting to pull together.

Monday morning: biur chametz and off to the hotel to prepare the Seder, set the tables, make the salads, prepare the chicken and put on the soup. 2:00 we get a call from Eli M - the RaRa boys in Townsville can't find their matza and wine. Could we send them something? Sure we could, it was a great feeling of achdus, even while in Cairns and Townsville we were there helping each other. Under Eli's instruction we put the matzah and wine in a taxi to the airport hoping for the best, and found out only after Yom Tov, b"h it all worked out.

6:00pm the guests started arriving and at 6:30 (or was it 6:45) we all raised our glasses, sanctified the holyday of Pesach and leaned in freedom to drink our wine. Boruch Hashem the seder was enjoyed immensely by all. Four cups of wine and some matzah later, the inspiring explanations and exciting songs left us all in elevated spirits. We hope to celebrate a seder just like this one next year in Yerushalayim.

Mendy Kesselman
Shimon Dubinsky

Coffs Harbour

New South Wales



OUR MERKOS Shlichus experience this year didn't begin in Coffs, it was at the airport. After checking in, we took note of the time and then continued to search the airport for Jews. With G-d's help we succeeded to find a Jew and after putting on tefillin with him, we spent a while talking until our departure.

After arriving in Coffs Harbour, our first stop was the apartment, which would serve as the caterer's kitchen and main office for this year's Coffs Harbour Passover Seder. Immediately we went out to visit the local Jews who don't manage to experience Yiddishkeit during the rest of the year. They don't have the comfort of a Shule or even a Jewish community centre. We brought them their yearly dose of inspiration, consisting of prayer, Torah, and Passover necessities.

One of our visits was to a nice fellow named John whom Shluchim have been visiting for years. He is always a source of enjoyable discussion but has never been reported to put on Tefillin. It seemed that this year would be no different.

As we were preparing to leave he invited us over for dinner. His wife and children were not home and wouldn't be back for a few days, so he offered that we bring our own kosher food and cutlery and enjoy a

dinner with him in his home the next evening. Due to our tight schedule we originally planned on eating alone elsewhere, but he knew better than to let us go so simply. He proposed a deal. "You'll come for dinner and I'll put on Tefilin". That was a good incentive to reschedule and we made sure to arrange that we'd come over before sunset in order not to lose this golden opportunity. So John put on Tefilin for the first time in 45 years since his Bar Mitzvah.

With every public event comes hours of preparation. This year we had arranged for a chef in Coffs to help us out. However amongst all of our preparations we received a call from the chef informing us that we would be on our own. Thankfully Zalmy took his place as "head chef" and the three of us spent the subsequent days and nights peeling, cutting and cooking. We discovered recipes that would otherwise have remained unknown to us, and cut vegetables enough for an appropriate Seder table. The golden chicken soup tantalized our palate, and the salads full of fresh vegetables, truly made it a feast. As the sun set and Yom Tov arrived we finally finished all of our preparations, the end result reminded us of home.

It was most amazing to see over sixty-five men, women and children join together for the Seder night (almost double last year!). They were ready to be inspired and we hope we did just that. Throughout the Seder our guests made themselves heard, with each and every participant experiencing the Seder of their lives. The discussions, songs and stories made it an experience which would be hard to forget, so hard that no-one even noticed the time fly by. Though it was getting late people stayed till

the very last page. But it didn't end there, many continued on to discuss, converse and reminisce. Afterwards we distributed the remaining Matzah and wine for our guests to take home to have their own second Seder.

Amongst the topics that were spoken at the Seder was the dire need for unity amongst the local Jewish community. Suggestions were made that the locals gather together often and we even offered to join them once more - everyone was interested.

When it came time for thank you's, we began by thanking the one to whom the credit of our annual Seder and all Yiddishkeit in Coffs Harbour goes - our Rebbe. These words brought tears to eyes. Following us, one of our participants stood up and related how this experience had and would continue to affect and change his life.

Leaving Coffs Harbour was very emotional for us and the small dispersed Jewish community, but the consolation was the fact that there will be many more visits from Shluchim and Chabad of RARA.

It is our sincere hope that we will merit to continue to bring the light of Torah and Yiddishkeit to Coffs Harbour until it begins to shine on its own.

We would like to thank Zalmy Plotke from Yeshiva Gedolah for coming up to Coffs Harbour joining us in our Shlichus, being a tremendous source of help in every part of the way; May you go from strength to strength and have continued success in YG.

Nochum Greenberg
Menachem Mendel Begun

Darwin

Northern Territory



The warmth, the atmosphere, the smiles on people's faces, the unity, the opportunity to inspire...it was all worth it.



IT ALL STARTED when we arrived in Darwin. The first thing we did was turn to the phone book and look for Jewish names. Not knowing that the phone book was for the entire Northern Territory, the first person we called was actually Jewish! An Israeli family living in a place called Nhulunbuy (a 10 hour drive from Darwin). At first they almost hung up on us, and thought we were making a prank call, but then they realized we meant business. They were so happy to hear from us. They were looking for something Jewish for a long time, but could not find anything. We sent them Matzahs and other Jewish needs. When we called them before Pesach, to see if the Matzahs arrived, they could not thank us enough.

On shlichus many times you see clear Divine Providence. On one of our first days, while driving down the street, we spotted the ABC news building, and decided to go in for an interview about our story. We went to the radio section and took care of the broadcast, but before leaving we asked if there were any Jewish employees. "Ivor is", one person told us, pointing to a man across the room. While Ivor is not exactly Jewish, his wife and son are Jewish. Imagine, we randomly went there to advertise, and ended up finding Jewish people. After our Seder, we got an email from someone saying "Sorry I couldn't come, but your advertisement on the radio was very nice".

While in a store someone tells us "shalom", we run over, but he's not Jewish. "Do you know anyone Jewish" we asked? "No", he replied. While talking to him, he gets a phone call, "Oh yes, I know one person, the one I'm on the phone with..." he says. She was an Israeli who worked in the same place as him, just a few blocks away, living in Darwin for the past 4 years, separated from anything Jewish. We invited her to our Seder, she was very surprised and really appreciated our visit.

We rent our house from a man named John. During the year John gives us a call, "I met two people from the same religion as yours, they want information on Jewish things happening here, can I give them your number?" he asked. "Sure, no problem" we said. To make a long story short, we met them, and they told us that they are working in a cleaning company, and that their boss is also Jewish. So we meet the boss and her family, they were very interested in everything we told them, they did not know there were other Jewish people in Darwin. We put up a Mezuzah, and wrapped Tefillin with Sasha, the boss's son, for the very first time. It was very inspiring. They all came to our Seder and loved it.

We were hanging up signs around town. In one place on the board it said, that the sign must be approved by the management, so we go to the office, and yes, you guessed it, she was Jewish. These are just a few of the many stories.

Preparations were going well, and before we knew it, it's time to start. One by one they came, men women and children, people from all different backgrounds, people with different personalities, people that before we met them, did not know what a Passover Seder is. They all came together to learn, to talk, and to share. It was a night to remember.

Forty people attended our Seder, everyone had a chance to read and get involved. We showed them a picture of the Rebbe, and told them this is why we are here tonight. We told them how the Rebbe cares for every Jew in the world. During Shulchan Aruch we went around the table and asked everyone to say their name and something

about themselves. As we went around the table, everyone without fail told us "thank you". Everyone appreciated the Seder. There were those that said they never knew there were other Jewish people in Darwin.

Eugene is a fifteen year old teenager. Before he left he came up to us and asked "Can I keep this Hagadah, I want to show it to my friends". "Sure" we said, enjoy it. He was proud, proud to be a Jew.

The Rebbe teaches us that when you give, you get. It's a two way deal, we were able to give them what we had, and we took inspiration from their thirst for learning.

We would like to thank all those that helped us so generously, especially to Rabbi Yossel Gutnick for your help and constant support to the Jewish community of Darwin. May you all be blessed and have continued success in all that you do.

The trains from Melbourne to Darwin were not running due to weather conditions. Thanks to the tremendous help of Eli Marcus, we were able to receive our supplies in time for Pesach.

We want to thank the Rebbe for giving us the opportunity to be your shluchim to Darwin. May we all merit to be celebrating Pesach in the year 5772 in Yerushalaim next to the Beis Hamikdash with Moshiah.

Mendel Polter

Nochum Greenwald

Yitzchak Meir Einstein

Fremantle

Western Australia



THE AMOUNT OF paper that was allotted to us would not suffice to convey the amazing accomplishments and experiences of our trip to Fremantle. So here is a short glimpse into some of the things that occurred:

We arrived in Perth at 8:30 am to be picked up by the most amazing Shliach, Rabbi Sholom White, with whom we would be staying in the days leading up to the Seder. As soon as we arrived we got to work setting up meetings and making last-minute arrangements for the Seder.

One of the first people we visited was Mark, an 85 year old army veteran, and boy! was he happy to see us! We started with a 'never-too-late' Bar Mitzvah. It was very moving to see how, after the Shema, he recited his own silent prayer. We could not resist breaking into a little dance! Besides for Mark, there were his wife and friend, who was helping out. We spoke about Shabbos candles; "I remember how my mother used to swing her hands three times over the candles before covering her eyes, but since then I never did it" said the friend quite emotionally. "Well, it's never too late to start" we told her and gave both of them 'Friday light' candle kits and calendars with the candle-lighting times for the rest of the year. They both said that they would start lighting

every week. By the end of our visit three people had sold their chametz, two women received Shabbos candles, and two houses were outfitted with mezuzot.

From there we went to the other side of town (thank G-d for GPS!), where we met a lady who grew up on a very anti religious Shomer Hatzair Kibbutz. Well, after a long discussion on basic concepts of Yiddishkeit she decided that she and her daughter would start lighting Shabbos candles together every Friday night with a brochah. We ended the evening by having her affix a Mezuzah proudly.

One morning after Shacharis at Chabad we had a very inspiring conversation with Sam.

Sam: Bochers! It's so nice to see you again; you guys are like a breath of fresh air!

Shluchim: It's so nice to see you Sam; how have things been? We heard that you and your family moved from Fremantle to Perth to be closer to the Chabad house.

Sam: Yes, I also sent my daughter to the Jewish school. And this year for the first time we are koshering the house for Pesach.

Shluchim: That's amazing!

Sam: I never thought this is what would come out of listening to Levi Piha and coming to the Seder some three years ago!

Shluchim: It's good to see that the Seder has a long term effect on some people!

Sam: I know; I also started putting on Tefillin every day and attending shul a few times a week.

Finally, it was time for the Seder. At 6:30pm people started showing up, lighting candles and finding their seats. The crowd was a mix of tourist and locals. We started

with a warm singing of 'Hinei Ma Tov' followed by Kadesh Urchatz... Then came Magid, starting with the singing of Ma Nishtanah by the children. Then we went around the table and people read parts of the Hagadah in the language of their choice.

While all this was going on, Yehudah, Mordy and Yossi were busy preparing a lavish Shulchan Orech (holiday meal). During Shulchan Orech we sang lots of songs. 'One is Hashem' was one of the big hits - the English was led by two kids from Singapore and the Hebrew by a large group of Israeli backpackers, many of whom met each other for the first time at the Seder.

The evening ended with a loud "Leshanah Habah Biyerushalaim". Everyone left in high spirits, now knowing and understanding how we Yiddin are truly free people and that this freedom is obtained through Torah and Mitzvos.

We would like to finish by thanking Rabbi and Rebbetzin White for helping us with everything we needed - a car, cooking, accommodations etc., and for being a true inspiration to us about what real Shluchim should be like. Also, thanks to the Bochorim who came with us - Mordachai Gutnick and Yossi Fellig - for being such a help; it would have been impossible to do this without you guys.

Let us be zoicheh to celebrate next Pesach with Moshiach in Yerushalaim!

(Note: names have been changed to protect privacy)

Hirschel Gourarie
Yehuda Zaltzman

Stories

Byron Bay By Shmuel Lipsker

Boruch Hashem the first days were very successful for us in Byron Bay. The first Seder we had 70 guests, the second Seder 40 and Shabbos Chol Hamoed, 30 guests arrived.

After Shabbos, we were in the City and I was looking for a restroom. We went to the local information desk to ask where the nearest one was. While we were there, a typical clichéd backpacker strolled in with his backpack and many plastic bags in hand. When he caught sight of us, he dropped everything in disbelief and could barely speak. When he finally caught his breath, he explained to us he was on his way from Gold Coast having spent the Seder at Rabbi Moshe Serebransky. He began telling us his story.

After being with Moshe in Gold Coast for the Seder, he wanted to continue on to Byron Bay for the second days of Pesach. Being that he was an observant Yid, Moshe kindly invited him to stay with us in Byron Bay for Yom Tov and Shabbos as the nearest hostels and hotels were a fair walk from the Chabad house. Arriving in Byron Bay he came to the information desk to find out how to get to the Chabad house. He was prepared to take bus 11 (walk), together with his 22 kg backpack and parcels. So that he explained, was the reason his jaw dropped when he saw us. Instead of him having to go to Chabad, Chabad came to him.

This was just one of the many cases of Hashgocha Protis (Divine providence) which we encountered on our trip.

Coffs Harbour NSW

By Mendy Begun

At the Seder, while discussing some of the different concepts and explanations regarding the Haggadah, the following question was asked: "Why do we say 'this is the bread of affliction which our forefathers ate in the land of Egypt.'? Shouldn't we say 'this is like the bread of affliction etc.' 'this bread isn't from Egypt, it merely resembles the "bread of Egypt"?"

An older man stood up and called out, "the Lubavitcher Rebbe tells us that every person in every generation and every day of their lives must see himself as if he's going out of Egypt, so this is the bread... from Egypt"...

It turned out that this fellow I had known as a young child. He used to live in California, would attend my father's minyan at the Chabad House, and join in the Shabbos meals at our table, and now, years later we met up in the far flung city of Coffs Harbour. What a Hashgacha Pratis!!

Darwin

CONNECTION AROUND THE GLOBE -UNCLE TO NIECE

Benjamin has been living in Darwin for many years. He is 81 Years old, and was born in the city of Detroit - state of Michigan. After many rough years in America, he fled to Darwin in order to restart his life. He has been visited many times by the Bochorim who come for Pesach as well as the RARA boys.

Being that Mendel Polter is also from Detroit they began talking together about their hometown. Over the course of the conversation he decided to write down the contact details of his two siblings (whom he has not been in contact with so often) living in the Detroit Metropolitan area.

The next day Mendel called his father in Detroit and asked if he can give Benjamin's siblings a call before Pesach and see if they have Shmura Matza and all the other Pesach needs.

It took a while for Rabbi Polter to contact Rachelle – Robert's sister. After some talk they both realized that they have met quite a few times before. Rachelle has a daughter Miriam who became religious many years ago and over the course of many years she had been staying over at the Polter home within the Jewish neighbourhood of the city. Later she got married to a Shliach in the US until his untimely passing a couple of years ago. Rachelle would also come visit the Polter's which obviously made it easier to deliver Matza to her. Rachelle was very excited to hear about her brother in Darwin.

Benjamin was absolutely amazed by this turn of events – what a small world, and he was very inspired by this amazing act of Divine Providence. How amazing...

Feedback

Good morning to you,

Thank you so much for your hospitality and kindness. This Pass over Seder was so precious and special for my son and his friends; as he said “experience of a life time” & I have you to thank for. Thank you so much again.

Regards, M. S.

Thank you. I have made a donation. I learned a lot from the Seder.

**Best regards,
N. Stock**

Hi Moshe,

I would like to thank all of you for a great Seder you organized. It was so overwhelming experience for me...

Thank you and Regards, Mark

Hi Hirschel,

Yesterday was an honor to partake in the Seder – thank you. Fortunately I had the family at my table translating the Hebrew for me... Met some good friends!... An interesting conversation I had with the table I was seated at was talking about the synagogue I ...

With best regards, M. S.

Thank you for a wonderful memorable evening last night

**Hilary, Mike,
Lara, Nick and Jill**

Thank you for accepting us to join in the celebration of Pesach.

With Blessings & light

**Caroline, Jeanette, Marie
Chintin VIC.**

B”H, In all Chabad communities around the world, the Yeshiva boys return home for the festivals. The opportunity is used to gather the community and discuss Torah.

Perth is no different, Bachurim from Melbourne come for the Seder in Fremantle and allow our community to enjoy words of Torah.

For over an hour Rabbi White, Yehuda Zaltzman and Tzvi Hirsch Gourarie delivered interesting ideas about Pesach. Ideas regarding the story of the Exodus, customs of the Seder, advice for doctors and many other points were expounded upon.

chabadwa’s Blog

Dear Yehuda, Re your visit to Perth in April for Pesach.

Just wanted to let you know that I and my son Dan war unable to attend 1st night Seder in Fremantle as in the late afternoon my son had a major stomach upset. With great regret we were unable to make it, but wish to thank you for all your effort in providing the Seder.

I have enclosed a donation for the college & wish you well.

Best regards, J. S.

**On behalf of the hundreds of Jews in the Outback, upon whom
such an indelible mark has been left, special thanks must be
given to our sponsors for their kindness and generosity.
Best wishes for continued success in all your endeavours.**



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