

# TERUAH

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THE PROGRESSIVE JEWISH CONGREGATION OF AUCKLAND

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**CHESHVAN  
5785**

**BETH  
SHALOM**



ISSUE:  
**NOVEMBER 2024**

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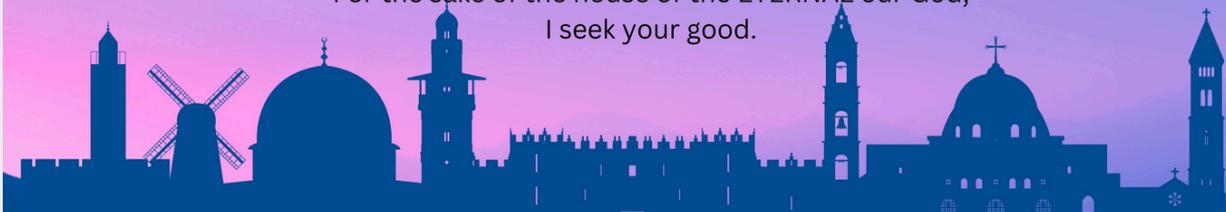
שאלו שלום ירושלם ישליו אהביך: יהי־שלום בחילך שלוח בארמנותיך:  
למען־אחי ורעי אדברה־נא שלום בך: למען בית־י אלהינו אבקשה טוב לך:

Pray for the well-being of Jerusalem - may those who love you be at peace.

May there be well-being within your ramparts,  
peace in your citadels.

For the sake of my family and friends, I pray for your well-being.

For the sake of the house of the ETERNAL our God,  
I seek your good.



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## THE RABBI'S PEN

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It's the last day of Sukkot, as I write this, and I'm sitting in Beth Shalom's sukkah one more time. No children are squealing. No lulavim are shaking. Instead, I hear the song of birds, the whrrr of cars, and the rustle of wind through the schach. We've had fine weather most of the week but today it's overcast; I'm glad I'm wearing my jumper.

Sitting here, I reflect back on the High Holy Days now concluded. I think especially of all your faces – open, expectant, hopeful, tired, bereft. I remember the sound of our voices combining in song, the plea of the cello on Kol Nidre, the scream of the shofar. I feel all the good wishes of our community, the delight we take in being together.

I look above me, at the palm fronds, and around me, at the wraparound green walls. In a few days, they'll be gone.

The sukkah is an insecure dwelling by design. Rain and wind can enter. Sitting here, I think about David Zussman's talk on Yom Kippur afternoon. He's an expert in community housing, and he reminded us just how many people in our own city lack safe, reliable, affordable homes. Working families are struggling all around us. Uni students and other young adults lack options. Older people feel trapped. Houses are cold in winter. People are forced to live further and further from work, adding to congestion. And the situation is getting worse, not better.

David introduced us to Marlon Drake of Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga, a broad-based coalition of organisations across Auckland, working "toward a future where children and families flourish." Beth Shalom recently joined Te Ohu, the only synagogue amongst churches, trusts, ethnic groups, labour unions, and other community groups, all pulling together to improve life in our city.

Te Ohu uses Community Organising, a process whereby individuals speak to one another about what's troubling them, famously, "what keeps them up at night." Through these listening campaigns, Te Ohu establishes a focus for its work, seeking to harness the energy and power of so many groups to effect meaningful and sustainable change where people need it most. They often meet with elected officials and ask for commitments on behalf of the public good.

This year, Te Ohu is focused on housing in the greater Auckland area. Beth Shalom will hold events in January and February so that we can hear one another's stories, better understand the situation, and determine appropriate courses of action. All of us – in every neighbourhood, regardless of age, whether renters, owners, or landlords – will be invited to participate. This is a shared problem, so solutions must be shared, too.

As Jews, we know how it feels to be alone. We also know how it feels to be in community, and how partnership brings understanding and impact. It's important that we're in this coalition, working towards a more just society. If you're interested in being part of this Social Justice work, please do let me know.

For more information about Te Ohu, visit [teohu.community](http://teohu.community).

*Rabbi Dean Shapiro*

Email: [rabbi@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:rabbi@bethshalom.org.nz)

# SUKKOT AT BETH SHALOM



## TO E-SHAMMOS OR NOT TO E-SHAMMOS?

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*“By the time I eShammosed my first service the process was like second nature.” - David K.*

During lockdown I was asked as a one off to help out by being an eshammos over the Yom Tovim. Not having had the mitzvah before I jumped in at the deep end. To say it was all smooth sailing would be stretching the truth!

As no-one could attend services in person we had a captive audience, not only from Beth Shalom but it was great that we had folks from all over the world, Temple Sinai and members of the AHC.

The large numbers, a few technical issues and my lack of experience in online meetings made things a bit challenging. On the upside I met new people, saw folk from Temple Sinai I hadn't seen or spoken for years, and as strange as it may seem, there was a strong connection of everyone coming together celebrating as best we could.

Move forward to 2024 and I was once again asked to help out being eShammos, but on a permanent basis.

How times have changed, the online services have become an integrated part of what we do at Beth Shalom, the preparation and training was comprehensive, Naomi has documented the process that even I could understand, the practice ZOOM sessions helped to set me at ease.

To be honest I was disappointed that, more often than not, the number of participants that have been attending is less than five, a couple of times there has only been myself and one other online.

Was this commitment really worthwhile? A couple of months in I talked to a couple of members of the congregation and they told me how much the availability of the online services meant to them. One person is a country member unable to travel the distance to Shule, another was not well enough to attend services in person.

The availability of ZOOM services gave them the ability to pray with others and enabled them to be spiritually involved in our community. This enlightening feedback made me feel the few hours I spend as eShammos was definitely worthwhile. In the case of online services it is not the numbers that count.

***...continued on page 6...***

## TO E-SHAMMOS OR NOT TO E-SHAMMOS?

**[Continued from page 5]**...Another added bonus of being an eShammos is that I have seen new parts of our machzor that were there but I have never noticed! Many of us have learnt the Hebrew parts of the service off by heart as we spent endless hours with our kids going over the Amidah and other prayers for their Bat or Bar Mitzvot. As eShammos I have had to follow the written service so I can turn the page at the appropriate time,

I have found a lot of relevance to my life and current issues around the world in prayers written in English. As I said for me an added bonus of being an eShammos.

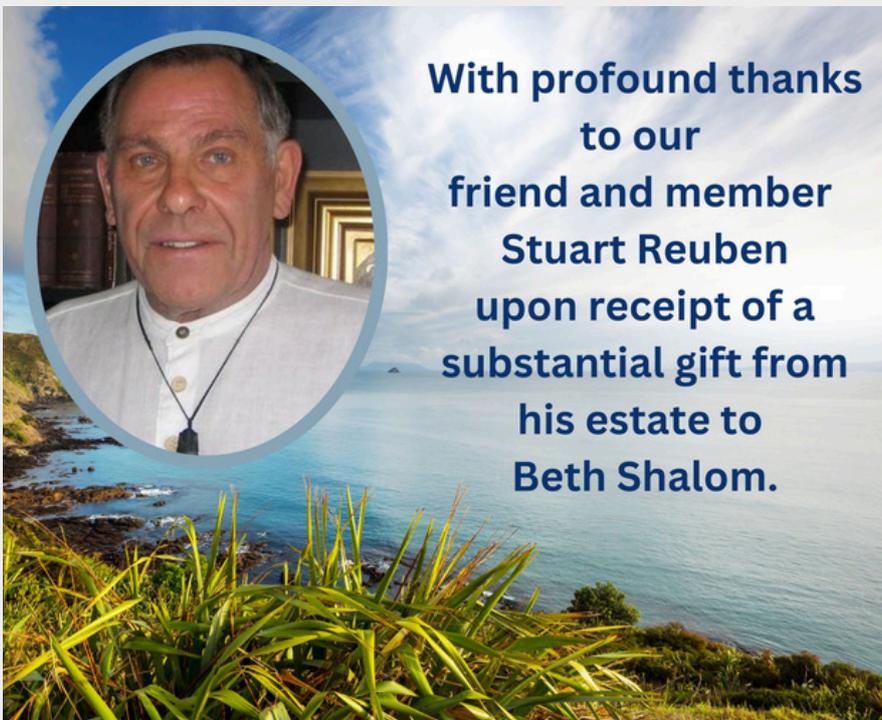
One has a choice of how we spend our 730 hours a month, I have found giving 4 or 5 a month to being an eShammos extremely rewarding.

Author:

*David Kranz*

## HONOURS

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Jewish Values got off to an energetic, fun and wonderful start to term 4 with our Beyachad (all together) session. Term four Jewish Value is Teshuvah – Responsibility. The students learned about Teshuvah, responsibility and creating new directions. They learnt about four important Rosh Hashanah traditions, Round Challah, Fish Heads, Shofa and Apple and Honey. The students understand it is all our responsibility as Jews to keep these traditions alive. Sukkah decorations were crafted, and we had a lovely ending to this session hanging the decorations in the Sukkah.

Hebrew Online classes are running weekly with the students continuing to make great progress learning Hebrew language and reading prayers in Hebrew.

Inquiry's to [educator@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:educator@bethshalom.org.nz)



# AJBBS UPDATE

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The season of chagim is ending as I write this month's report from AJBBS.

One highlight for us during the Yamim Norai'm was our Kevar Doroteinu gathering at Waikumete Cemetery. We are grateful to Rabbi Dean for leading us in a moving and thoughtful service. We welcomed the moments to honour the memory of our late friend, Rachel Denyss, with the placing of her headstone, and also to acknowledge the family of David Levin, among others.

We reported earlier on the recent training session for shiva minyan leaders. In response to feedback, Rabbi Dean plans a second session for people who attended that introduction. This session will focus on enhancing your skills for conducting the minyan service.

The leading of shiva minyanim is a significant adjunct to the practical and pastoral work of B&B volunteers, an opportunity to provide further consolation to bereaved families.

Just a reminder - the B&B's role includes "benevolence". In these hard times, we may be able to help you when financial crises and challenges arise. Please don't hesitate to call or email us.

Over the next few months, we hope to begin to put together a revised information pamphlet about our work. We know this can be helpful to families, where one of their members is approaching end of life. We need also to provide some reference material for hospices and care agencies who are unfamiliar with Jewish practice.

Among other ongoing tasks, we continue to investigate options for "green" burial and extension of available space for graves.

We send condolences and "long life" wishes to all of you observing yahrzeit at this time. May the memories of your loved ones be for a blessing.

**Auckland Jewish Burial & Benevolent Society**



# New Zealand Jewish Council

Rūnanga Hūrai o Āotearoa | המועצה היהודית בניו זילנד

To all Jews and Israelis (and friends!) in New Zealand,

Below is our latest update designed to inform and engage with the community. Any feedback or thoughts, feel free to drop us a line. As always, please share this update with other members of the community.

## First Anniversary of October 7 Attacks

Two weeks ago marked the first anniversary of the attacks in southern Israel. Commemorative events were held in the main centres at which a number of representatives from across the political spectrum attended. A number of individuals and organisations including the Council put a great deal of effort and planning into these events.

### Security Incidents in New Zealand

We are aware of an attack that has occurred on a Jewish business in New Zealand. Additionally, some prominent Jewish and Zionist organisations have been receiving hate mail that appears to be from the same person. The envelopes have handwritten addresses and 109/110 on the back. If you receive or see one, please do not open it. Place it in a plastic bag and contact CSG.

The CSG is liaising with the relevant authorities on these matters but we would remind all community members to remain vigilant at all times.

We will share more information if and when we are able, but we emphasise that the CSG has developed a strong relationship with the police and other security agencies.

## Troubling Times in Melbourne

Katy Barnett, a professor at Melbourne Law School and part of the Australian Academic Alliance Against Antisemitism wrote this article in The Age detailing the experience of a professor colleague of hers who was targeted for antisemitic attack by protestors.

Professor Steven Praver is an observant Jew who wears a kippah. His supposed “crime” is his association with a joint PhD program between the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the University of Melbourne. Currently, the program assists PhD students in researching how birds navigate and new drug treatments. Of the many people associated with the program, only Praver was singled out for attention by the protestors.

On the week of October 7, a protest was held on the University of Auckland campus, using the chant “There is only one solution: intifada revolution.” The Council continues to communicate and work with senior staff at various universities about the conduct of some of its academics and students

...**continued on page 10**

## NEW ZEALAND JEWISH COUNCIL OCTOBER UPDATES - CONTINUED...

### New Zealand's UN Vote

Community members will no doubt have seen New Zealand's confused vote at the UN. Even the Government realises that it was a strange approach. We encourage community members to voice their concerns with the local Member of Parliament or write a letter to the Prime Minister or Minister of Foreign Affairs.

### Christchurch City Council vote

A petition to the CCC called for the council to adopt a BDS policy to avoid using any companies that do business with settlements in the occupied territories. Despite submissions opposing the motion from the Jewish community, the resolution was passed making the CCC the first council in New Zealand to adopt a BDS stance. This has been endorsed by the Labour Party.

### Ngapuhi Event for Outgoing Israeli Ambassador (and news about new Ambassador Coming)

The Israeli ambassador is leaving New Zealand as his term finishes. Ngapuhi leaders recently hosted an event for Ambassador Yaakoby, at which he was gifted a korowai in the colours of the Israeli flag. The NZJC was represented at the event by Juliet Moses.

The new Ambassador, Alon Snir Ruth, has been appointed. Most recently he was appointed as the envoy to lead diplomatic efforts aimed at securing the release of the hostages in Gaza. Before that, he was Deputy Ambassador to the UK.



### New Zealand's UN Vote

Community members will no doubt have seen New Zealand's confused vote at the UN. Even the Government realises that it was a strange approach. We encourage community members to voice their concerns with the local Member of Parliament or write a letter to the Prime Minister or Minister of Foreign Affairs.

### Research into Hebrew in the NZ Jewish Community

Annabel Noar is a Jewish PhD student at Monash University who is researching how Jewish families maintain and evaluate Hebrew in New Zealand and how they view the connection between the language and Judaism. She is looking for people over the age of 18, living in New Zealand and engaged with Judaism in some way to participate in her research by completing a survey about their language use.

Best wishes to you all.

- NZJC Executive

# CLASSIFIEDS



**Bar/Bat Mitzvah for Adults**

Are you interested in a meaningful, extended course of Jewish study – whether for its own sake or culminating in bat /bar /bet mitzvah?

Beth Shalom is considering offering such a program in 2025, led by Rabbi Dean.

**If you might be interested, please let Christine know:  
Administrator@BethShalom.org.nz.**

שימיע ישראל ידוהא

# Young People In Faith

**Join us for an inspiring evening of dialogue, connection, and exploration.**

**Hear from dynamic young leaders who are making a difference in their faith communities.**



**AHMET ÖZTÜRK**  
ISRA, SYDNEY  
MANAGER



**ETHAN NEMEROFF**  
HEAD OF THE AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY  
JEWISH STUDENTS ASSOCIATION



**ANDREW DAWSON**  
HOLY TRINITY  
CATHEDRAL

**Together, we can ignite a future where our voices and visions lead the way.**

 11 November, 2024

 6.30-9.00 PM

 Hillsborough Room, Fickling Centre



Scan the QR Register for free!



PEARL OF THE ISLANDS  
FOUNDATION INCORPORATED



Holy Trinity  
Cathedral  
AUCKLAND



beth shalom  
auckland new zealand  
בית שלום

# CLASSIFIEDS





15-16 NOV 24

## SHABBAT POTLUCK

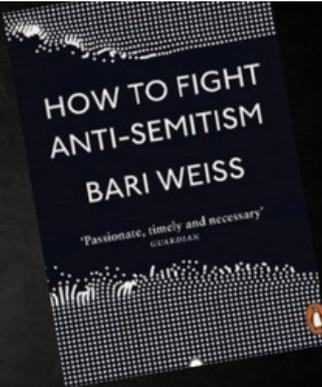
### FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 6:30PM

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE SHABBAT WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD THROUGH THE SHABBAT PROJECT.

Please no strawberries or heated garlic as we have members with serious allergies.



## THE JEWISH BOOK CLUB



Monday November 18th  
11:00am-12:30pm  
RSVP with Sharon Morris  
spacanada.kiwi.nz

*We will be discussing "How to Fight Anti-Semitism" by Bari Weiss (3 library copies)*

**LIMITED TICKETS**

THE HOLOCAUST CENTRE OF NEW ZEALAND PRESENTS

## KRISTALLNACHT

COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT

**When the Violin Falls Silent  
Music in Hiding**

WELLINGTON 17TH NOV 2024  
AUCKLAND 18TH NOV 2024

BOOK NOW:  
[www.holocaustcentre.org.nz](http://www.holocaustcentre.org.nz)



# BETH SHALOM SECURITY PROTOCOL



## Swift entry and exit

Please enter and exit the gates swiftly, ensure they are fully closed.



## No entry without clearance

Please do not admit entry to anyone you do not know. Please do not linger on the street in front.



## Large bag entry restrictions

Please refrain from bringing big bags to the synagogue. They will be checked, and you might be refused entry.



## Be alert at all times

Please have a heightened level of awareness and vigilance at all events and services, be aware of threats, and report any suspicious activity.



## Report unusual activity

If you see something unusual, report it to the security guard, service leader or to the office.

# CONTACT US

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## Prayers for Healing

If you would like our home prayer group to pray for healing for you or for someone close to you, please advise the office. Email: [office@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:office@bethshalom.org.nz)

## Kvetch and Kvell: Feedback at Beth Shalom

To give constructive feedback - whether positive or negative - please email: [feedback@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:feedback@bethshalom.org.nz)

## Tzedakah – Auckland Women’s Refuge

We are collecting donations for the Auckland Women’s Refuge - non-perishable food supplies, warm clothes for children aged 13-19yrs old and general supplies. For more information on how you can help contact Chris Shiller ([shiller@orcon.net.nz](mailto:shiller@orcon.net.nz)).

## Affiliated with the Union for Progressive Judaism (UPJ)

Charities Commission Registration Number CC29542  
PO Box 26 052, Epsom, Auckland 1344, New Zealand

**Telephone:** 09 524 4139

**Email:** [office@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:office@bethshalom.org.nz) (Office Coordinator)

**Website:** [www.bethshalom.org.nz](http://www.bethshalom.org.nz)

**Communications:** [communications@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:communications@bethshalom.org.nz)

**Assistant Administrator:** [administrator@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:administrator@bethshalom.org.nz)

## Board of Management

President – Michelle Wise, [president@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:president@bethshalom.org.nz)

Treasurer – Tamara Liebman, [treasurer@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@bethshalom.org.nz)

Secretary – Roger Reynolds, [secretary@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:secretary@bethshalom.org.nz)

**Board members** – Michael Robinson, Trudi Sawyer, Stephanie Richling, Hilary Hemmins, Daniel Josephs, Arie Rosen, and Mika Daniels

**Ex-Officio & Rabbi** - Rabbi Dean Shapiro, [rabbi@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:rabbi@bethshalom.org.nz)

**Membership** - [memberships@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:memberships@bethshalom.org.nz)

## Community Care [including Senior Outreach]

Email: [shiller@orcon.net.nz](mailto:shiller@orcon.net.nz) or [care@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:care@bethshalom.org.nz)

## Auckland Jewish Burial & Benevolent Society

Email: [secretary@ajbbs.org.nz](mailto:secretary@ajbbs.org.nz) or [treasurer@ajbbs.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@ajbbs.org.nz)

## Security - Board Representative & Security Working-Group

Email: [office@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:office@bethshalom.org.nz)

## Education - Yachad & Hebrew School

Email: [educator@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:educator@bethshalom.org.nz)

## Ritual

Email: [ngjohnson@orcon.net.nz](mailto:ngjohnson@orcon.net.nz) or [services@bethshalom.org.nz](mailto:services@bethshalom.org.nz)