

SHABBAT TETZAVEH

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Torah Portion: Exodus 27:20—30:10

Haftarah: Esther 7:1-10; 8:15-17

Weekly Announcements  
Ho'da'ot

## WHAT'S ON

<b>Thursday 5th March</b>
4.30pm Bnei Mitzvah Class 8pm Debate and Discussion at Dan Poll's
<b>Saturday 7th March, 10am</b>
Shabbat Morning Service with the Shule Choir
<b>Monday 9th March</b>
OFFICE CLOSED—LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
<b>Tuesday 10th March 5pm—7pm</b>
PURIM Celebrations
<b>Thursday 12th March</b>
4.3pm Bnei Mitzvah Class 7.30pm Rabbi David Saperstein talking at TBI for UIA Appeal
<b>Saturday 14th March</b>
10am—Shabbat Morning Service Havdallah in conjunction with Kedem & Netzer —guest speaker Rabbi David Saperstein
<b>Sunday 15th March 11am—5pm</b>
In One Voice — Selwyn Street Elsternwick
<b>Monday 16th March, 2pm</b>
Quiet time book reading
<b>Thursday 19th March, 4.30pm</b>
Bnei Mitzvah Class
<b>Saturday 21st March, 10am</b>
Shabbat Morning Service— 2020 Board Induction Service
<b>Sunday 22nd March, 6pm</b>
Women's Seder
<b>Thursday 26th March, 4.30pm</b>
Bnei Mitzvah Class—last for Term 1
<b>Friday 27th March, 6.30pm</b>
Kabbalat Shabbat followed by pot luck dairy dinner
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board Rep Max Freilich</li> <li>• Shalom Geraldine Green</li> <li>• Shammas Frank Moore</li> <li>• Baalat Shirah Sharon Mattatia</li> <li>• Baalaat Koreh Sharon Mattatia</li> </ul>
7th March Gerry Sabel
14th March Rabbi Allison Conyer
21st March Rabbi Allison Conyer

## Drash on Tetzaveh Shabbat Zachor Rabbi David Kunin Jewish Community of Japan

I remember the first time I read through the Torah. I was fairly young, and it was not an easy read. There were internal inconsistencies and contradictions, and so many names.

That, of course, was before I read Tolkien, where there are so many more (names that is). I remember being especially confused when I read the five *parashot*, beginning last week with *Terumah*, and ending with *Pekudey* in another three. According to the narrative, Moshe is on the top of Sinai, waiting to receive the tablets of the law. Yet suddenly in *Terumah* and this week in Tetzaveh, we read two *parashot*, seemingly out of the blue, which outline the implements and vestments which will comprise the *Mishkan*, the mobile sanctuary that the children of Israel will carry with them through the desert. We then return to the main narrative (next week) in *Parshat Ki Tisa*, with the story of the Golden Calf, and the breaking of the first set of tablets of the law as Moshe finally comes down from the top of the mountain. But then, in the last two *parashot* of Exodus (*Vayakel* and *Pekuday*), we return to the *Mishkan* and its implements. Why all the repetition, and why the strange interruption in the narrative flow?

Not surprisingly, I was not the first one to notice this inconsistency. Indeed, our ancient rabbis were also surprised by the Torah's narrative flow. Two classical Midrashim suggest that the casting of the Golden Calf occurred before the command to build the *Mishkan*. Rashi agrees and adduces a rabbinic dictum, "There is no early or later in the Torah," that there is no necessary chronological order in the Torah. These commentators suggest that the *Mishkan* was commanded as a concession in response to the failure in building the Golden Calf. The Calf exemplified the need for physicality, and thus the *Mishkan* was commanded as a more appropriate channel of that, need in the service of the Divine. (This interpretation would suggest that the final two *parashot* are appropriately placed.)

What then, is the difference between the Golden Calf and the *Mishkan*? Ultimately the difference between the two is attitude and motivation. The Golden Calf is a prime example of the worship of that which we create and elevate to the status of God. As Aaron says, "This is your God O Israel." We all have our Golden Calves, and generally, they are not statues of divine figures. Instead, they are aspects of our physical world, which we choose to make an expression of ultimate value and aspiration.

For some of us, it is the acquisition of wealth or possessions. With these, we elevate selfishness as our "god." Hedonism can also be "god," for many, as we elevate overindulgence, be it to food or sex. For others, politics or particular political figures are seen as saviours, and thus elevated to the status of "god." Sadly, even religions can create their calves. When we promote our particular understandings of the Divine as absolute truth and attempt to impose it on others, then we, too, are worshipping a Golden Calf.

Like the Calf, the *Mishkan*, is a fulfilment of a human need, allowing us a focus for our worship. Yet, its motivation is very different. Instead of elevating our physicality, creations, or ideologies as "god," God asks us to focus on holy action within the people as the actual dwelling place of the Divine, with the *Mishkan* serving merely as its representation. This elevating motivation is implicitly stated at the beginning of *Parashat Terumah*, which begins this cycle of readings (the verse is echoed at the end of this week's parasha as well). The Torah states (in its usual translation), "Asu – Make – me a *Mikdash* (The Torah here uses an alternative word for *Mishkan*, meaning a place of holiness) and I will dwell in your midst." But this verse could equally be translated "Asu do holy acts, and I will dwell in your midst." In either case, please note, God will dwell in the people's midst. The verse does not say in the midst of the mobile sanctuary. Our actions and the world we create through them are the ultimate "*Mikdash*." When we care for the stranger, hungry and homeless, then we are creating a "*Mikdash*." When we care for God's creation and all that is in it, then we are creating a "*Mikdash*." Though our ancestors built a beautiful *Mishkan* and later Temples, and we build beautiful synagogues and centres. The buildings themselves are not "*Mikdash*," but instead can even be Golden Calves. They are transformed into "*Mikdash*," places of holiness when they lead us to a sense of connection with God and to acts that bring God's presence into the world. Indeed, whenever and wherever we gather together to reach out to God and allow God's presence to lead us to acts of holiness and *Tikkun* (repair or completion), then indeed, we are in a real "*Mikdash*."



TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH  
5-7pm

# ETZ CHAYIM PURIM CARNIVAL

FOOD STALLS!

LIVE MUSIC!

MAGILLAH READING!

FAMILY FUN!

GAMES!

**Members:** \$10 Adult; \$5 Child; \$25 Family  
**Non-Members:** \$12 Adult; \$7 Child; \$35 family  
**For Info Call : 9563 9208**

A portion of door sales will be donated to one of three charities available on the day

Please note this event will take place on Wurundjeri land, of the Kulin Nation.

ETZ CHAYIM PROGRESSIVE SYNAGOGUE





SUNDAY  
22 MARCH 6 PM  
(PRE-PESACH)

# ETZ CHAYIM'S WOMEN'S SEDER

THE REFUGEE EXPERIENCE

INFO: 9563 9208

BOOKINGS: <https://www.trybooking.com/BIKMK>

\$50 Members / \$60 Non-members



## THE ETZ CHAYIM GARDEN PROJECT



Help us look after our garden - join the GARDENING CLUB  
Third Sunday of each month 10:00am - 11:00am

Contact Ron Popper on [rpopper@optushome.com.au](mailto:rpopper@optushome.com.au) for more information

### REMEMBRANCE

THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY THIS WEEK FROM OUR COMMUNITY -

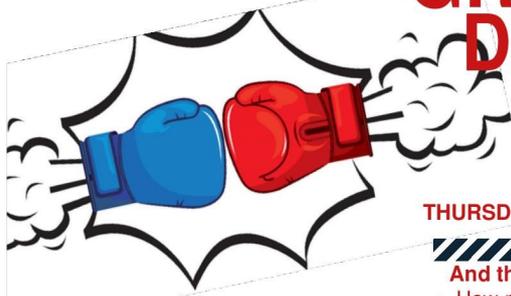
SHLOSHIM - Sandra Liebmann • Cecelia Henderson • Joan Abrahams • Helen Powell

Yahrzeits Observed This Shabbat—Jayme Reifman, grandfather of Mara Reifman • Ron Bearman, brother-in-law of Ruth Bearman • Belinda O’Gorman, granddaughter of Ilse Sherwin • David Gill, cousin of Suzie Eisfelder • Leah Miller, mother of Beatrice Miller • Miriam Morley, mother of Ruth Bearman • Leah Barlin, mother of Edith Ornellas and grandmother of Shaun Ornellas

We also remember all victims of violence and terrorism throughout the world.



# DISCUSSION GROUP & DEBATE



THURSDAY 5 MARCH, 8 - 10PM

And the topics will be:

- How much of an issue is mental illness?
- What can we do better to help the plight of Aborigines?
- Is there a danger a "Jeremy Corbyn" type could lead a civilised country?
- If you could ask G-d one question...what would it be?

Please come along with some questions for future discussion nights.

2/20 SYLVERLY GROVE, CAULFIELD (Back House)

SPONSORED BY:  
DAN POLL & ETZ CHAYIM

You are invited to share your opinions in a respectful environment where we may choose to graciously disagree.

Come enjoy some good debate! A gold coin donation would be appreciated.

To reserve your spot or for more information please phone the Office on 9563 9208 or email [info@etzchayim.org.au](mailto:info@etzchayim.org.au)

Meet and engage in a discussion with  
**Rabbi David Saperstein**



**"Faith, Fanaticism and the Jewish Future"**

- President Obama's Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom
- "Most influential rabbi in America"  
*Newsweek Magazine*
- "Quintessential religious lobbyist on Capitol Hill"  
*Washington Post*
- President of the World Union for Progressive Judaism

7.30pm Thursday 12 March

Temple Beth Israel 76-82 Alma Road, St Kilda

Enquiries/RSVP 05.03.20 [upj@upj.org.au](mailto:upj@upj.org.au)

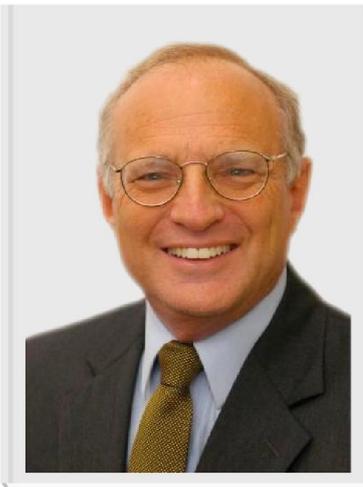
This is a major public event of the UIA Progressive Appeal



Havdalah & Discussion with

# RABBI DAVID SAPERSTEIN

How to be a Jewish activist?  
A guide for the next generation.



*join us!*

Saturday March 14th 2020  
7:30pm at  
Etz Chayim  
549 Centre Road  
Bentleigh

Rabbi Saperstein led the Religious Action Centre (RAC) in Washington DC for 34 years, described by the Washington Post as the "quintessential religious lobbyist on Capitol Hill".

From 2015-2017, Rabbi Saperstein served as President Obama's Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom.

He is currently the President of the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

Your hosts for the evening are Etz Chayim Progressive Synagogue, Kedem and Netzer in support of the UIA PROGRESSIVE APPEAL



# Jewish Culture Street Festival

אין איין קול בקול אחד

Music . Nosh (Food) . Art . Kids  
Community . Culture . Celebration



Selwyn St,  
Elsternwick

15 March 2020 - 11am-5pm

[www.inonevoice.org.au](http://www.inonevoice.org.au) | @inonevoiceoz

Presented by Principal Partner



Proudly supported by Glen Eira City Council

design: @dhgcreative



## Prep and Beyond Parent Information Session

Learn about the King David approach to:

- School Readiness • Educational Philosophy • Junior School Program

**Monday 16 March at 7:30pm**

373 Dandenong Rd, Armadale

**BOOKINGS:**

[www.kds.vic.edu.au/enrolments/informationevenings](http://www.kds.vic.edu.au/enrolments/informationevenings)

[www.kds.vic.edu.au](http://www.kds.vic.edu.au)

THE KING DAVID SCHOOL



Modern | Thinking | Judaism



RAISING HEALTHY FAMILIES

**JewishCare**  
Enriching Lives



Dr. Arne Rubinstein



### Parenting Forum: Building a Healthy Personal Identity

'Who am I?' It's a question that many contemplate at some point in their lives, but it is especially important for young people. The teenage years see children start to develop their own personal identity, separate from their parents. For many families, a key part of navigating this changing relationship is supporting teens to identify their true passions and explore their place in the world.

In this session, rites of passage expert **Dr. Arne Rubinstein** will outline practical strategies for parents to help young people to express and appreciate their unique gifts and talents.

**Dr. Arne Rubinstein** is an expert on rites of passage and adolescent development, with 30 years' experience as a doctor, counsellor, mentor, speaker and workshop facilitator. As founder of The Rites of Passage Institute, the programs and seminars Dr. Arne has helped to develop have been attended by over 100,000 people around the world.

**WHEN:** Wednesday 18 March 2020 at 7.30pm - 9.00pm

**WHERE:** Caulfield Park Pavilion, Balaclava Rd, Caulfield

**COST:** Gold coin donation

**ENQUIRIES:** 8517 5999 or [cbarrett@jewishcare.org.au](mailto:cbarrett@jewishcare.org.au)

**TICKETS:** [www.jewishcare.org.au/identity](http://www.jewishcare.org.au/identity)

ETZ CHAYIM WELCOMES YOU TO

# KABBALAT SHABBAT



Musical, Interactive, Meaningful,  
Child-Friendly Services,  
Story-Telling & Communal Meal

Last Friday of Each Month  
Commencing at 6:30pm  
Next Up: March 27<sup>th</sup>

**Come and bring a friend! All are welcome!**

Bring a vegetarian, fish, or sweet dish to share.

RSVP to Samantha at [info@etzchayim.org.au](mailto:info@etzchayim.org.au)  
or  
9563 9208.



**ETZ CHAYIM**  
Connecting Jewish Families  
Generation to Generation



**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR**

**AGM**

PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM VICTORIA INC.



PJV

The Voice of Progressive Judaism in Victoria  
האיגוד ליחידות מתקדמות בויקטוריה

**AND THE LAUNCH OF OUR  
COMMUNITY ADVANCE CARE  
ADVOCACY PROGRAM**

WITH APOLOGIES TO HILLEL:

*Who will speak for me  
when I can no longer speak for myself?*

מי ידבר בשמיכשאני  
כבר לא יכול לדבר בעד עצמי?

**DATE:** MONDAY 30 MARCH 2020  
**TIME:** 7.15PM FOR A 7.30PM START  
**WHERE:** KING DAVID SCHOOL  
ORRONG ROAD, ARMADALE  
**RSVP:** <http://bit.ly/2x9lzbL>

# Grow



mental wellness programs

## JEWISH GROW GROUP

Grow is a caring and supportive, community based NFP organisation that has developed a unique program for improving and maintaining mental wellbeing.

Grow offers practical steps and peer support to help you recover your mental health and achieve your personal goals.

The group will meet every Thursday, commencing 27th February from 7pm to 9pm at 707, Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South.

- Anyone over 18yrs is welcome
- No referrals or appointments
- No charge (voluntary donation)

For more information please call Grow on 1800 558 268 or vic@grow.org.au



In Year 10 at a non Jewish school?

\$5,000 VOUCHERS AVAILABLE



MONDAY 30 MARCH  
UJEB YEAR 10 TRIP INFO NIGHT

REGISTER HERE:  
[ISRAELFORYOUTHFOUNDATION.ORG.AU/](http://ISRAELFORYOUTHFOUNDATION.ORG.AU/)  
YEAR-10-INFO-NIGHT

# IS YOUR NOSE ALWAYS IN A BOOK?

Join us every third Monday of the month to let your inner bookworm out!

STARTING JANUARY 20, 2020  
2:00PM - 4:00PM



### BOOKWORM REQUIREMENTS:

- Do not apologise for being late
- Do not apologise for leaving early
- Shhh! Quiet space

Contact Suzie on [limmud@suzs-space.com](mailto:limmud@suzs-space.com) for further information

# EXPERIENCE ISRAEL THE JNF WAY

## JOIN ONE OF OUR UNIQUE MISSIONS



JNFuture Young Adults Mission  
Ages 20 - 35  
4 - 12 May 2020



Food, Music & The Arts Tour  
Adults  
16 - 25 November 2020



Family Mission to Israel  
All Ages  
28 December 2020 - 5 January 2021



JNF Day Tours  
All Ages  
Planned on request

For more information visit [www.jnf.org.au](http://www.jnf.org.au), call 1300 563 563 or email [saras@jnf.org.au](mailto:saras@jnf.org.au)

