

The background of the cover is a dark, textured space scene. It features several celestial bodies: a large orange-yellow planet at the top left, a small blue planet at the top right, a yellowish planet below it, a large Jupiter-like planet on the right, and a Saturn-like planet with rings in the center. In the bottom left is a large blue planet. The Habonim Dror logo, a stylized white 'K' with red and blue accents, is positioned in the upper center.

קולנו

KOLEINU

The magazine of:
Habonim Dror UK

PLANET HD: THE GLOBALISATION OF HABONIM DROR

Volume 23

Spring 2003

MANCHESTER FERTILITY SERVICES



With Best Wishes

Russell House, BUPA Hospital
Russell Road, Whalley Range
Manchester, M16 8AJ

Tel: 0161 862 9567

Fax: 0161 860 6120

Email: mfs@bupa.u-net.com

www.manchesterfertility.com

C CONTENTS

Subject of Rant Page No. of Rant

Movement Matters

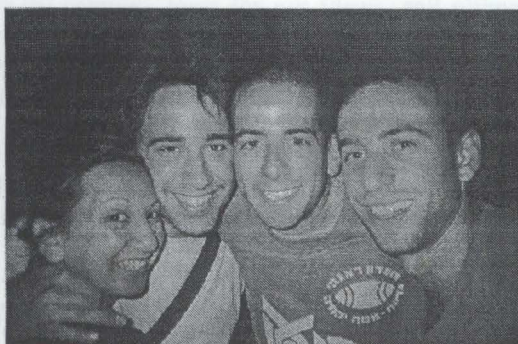
Movement Worker Reports	5
Kenim	9
Summer Machanot	12
Shnat Report	15
Winter Machanot	16
World Habonim Dror	18
Veida Hagshama	20
HD Australia	24
Shnat 2003	25

Ideological Perspectives

Community Identity	26
Renewing the Jew	27
Peace Now and Dialogue	28
Be an Activist, go on...	30
Define globalisation	32
Soapbox Rant	33
Designer Socialism?	34
A pair of Bushes	35
The Great Iraq Email Debate	36
Vatikei Habonim	38

Fun

HD for Dummies	39
Movement Monsters	40
Talking Tachlus	41



- ☆ The Abramson Family
- ☆ The M. A. Abramson Charitable Trust-
- ☆ Karen Ackerman
- ☆ Olga Allon and Justin Crewe
- ☆ The Berelowitz Family
- ☆ The Brown Family
- ☆ The Dobrin Family
- ☆ Jack Freedman
- ☆ The Heron Family
- ☆ The JNF
- ☆ Judy and Robert John
- ☆ The Kliner Family
- ☆ Sue and Tony Leifer
- ☆ Valerie and Geoffrey Leinhardt
- ☆ The Lieberman Family
- ☆ Ann Malone
- ☆ The Margolis Family
- ☆ Mrs. K. Phillips
- ☆ G. V. Sakol
- ☆ The Scora Family
- ☆ Ilana and Greg Swimer
- ☆ Alex ad Ros Steen
- ☆ Warren Taylor
- ☆ Judith Vandervelde
- ☆ Judith Wertheimer

And an infinitude of thanks and appreciation to:

The UJIA
The Jewish Agency
Israel Experience
Makor-AJY
The JNF
The Janner Trust
Jonathan Gestetner
World Habonim Dror
Kvutsat Yovel
Mike Tyldesley
Gaby Wine

Judith Hayman
Justin Cohen
The London Va'ad Leman
The Glasgow Va'ad Leman
The Manchester Va'ad Leman
The Irgun Vatiknei Habonim
The HDUK National Executive
Anat Freedman
Our President,
Lady Ruth Morris of Kenwood
And finally, all the lovely
chaverim of HDUK!

A Huge HD Mazel Tov to...

Marissa Sakol for making Aliyah. We wish you every success and happiness.
Aliyah Tova from everyone at HDUK!

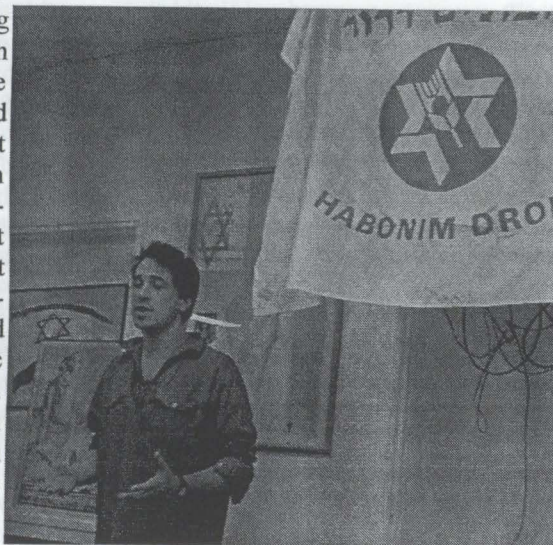
AND TO

Olga Allon and Justin Crewe
Mandy Wilkins and Jason Strellitz
Chloe Peters and Anthony Mitchell

who are all getting married!!!
(in their pairs)

Mazkir's Memoir

The situation in Israel at the moment presents many problems for left wing Zionists. Practically, it has also bitten chunks out of our movement over the last few years. No Israel Camp and a one-man Shnat kvutsah last year (though the group doubled in February – long live Rick and Ste!) not only made us look bad as a Zionist movement, but also means that we have fewer senior leaders educationally, experientially and ideologically committed enough to sustain the movement. I am not saying that chaverim who have not been on Shnat and Tour are useless; many are wonderful human beings and dedicated and talented madrichim. But without the strength of those experiences in Israel, the glue that binds the movement begins to dissolve. Shichvot (year-groups) drift apart, having not had the ultimate cohesive group experience. Fewer madrichim have first-hand knowledge of Israeli society – a topic that forms part of every HD tochnit. After all, we are an ideological youth movement, and our identity is rooted in the land of Israel, from which grows our sense of responsibility for Israeli society.



This year there will be Israel Camp and a Shnat kvutsah. This is owing to a number of factors, not least the commitment of our Muchanim (pre-Shnat) – RESPECT BE TO YOU and of our Shomrim (pre-Israel Camp) – RESPECT BE TO YOU, and the bravery of their parents in making the difficult, but the more worthwhile, choice. The personal benefits for these chaverim are countless, but it is also a crucial return to the track for Habonim Dror. We have learnt that we cannot take these institutions of Tour and Shnat for granted, and that we must work to instil our values in new generations of Jews who are growing up thinking that Israel is a barren hinterland with nothing to offer them. The worse a condition Israel is in, the more it needs us and our values.

Veida Hagshama 2002/3 was my all-time premier movement moment. 60 pumping chaverim, an absorption centre and a glorious 13-hour resolution session that had it all: emotional harangues, devious political manoeuvring, dastardly amendments and tons of passion. And that you all came – RESPECT BE TO YOU sent a powerful message to the community that Habo Dror is not leaving Israel behind. I'm sure it also played a part in showing potential Israel Campers, Shnatties and their parents that we believe it is still safe and important to go to Israel at this time.

But I shall stop blowing our own massive red and blue trumpet. Israel is in an ever-worsening predicament. Sharon's

policies in the West Bank are brutal and repressive, and any number of suicide bombs does not justify the obliteration of the Peace Process. The only way out of a cycle of violence is to transcend, and in a situation where Israel holds all the cards, Israel must be the one to initiate. Netanyahu's Thatcherite economic policies are exacerbating the unemployment and poverty in Israel, a State once proud of its low unemployment, virtually non-existent homelessness and narrow rich-poor gap. Those days are gone, for now.

Worldwide terror is increasing, or at least encroaching into places previously thought of as safe havens, and the aggressive punitive foreign policy of the USA puts us, as British people, Zionists and Socialists, in a difficult position. Notably, with the general debate on the War against Iraq, many groups supposedly founded upon shared views were split. That was the case with HD bogrim (see 'The Great Iraq Email Debate' later

on this issue), very few of whom were able to state a clear-cut position on the matter. It is difficult to know where to stand on Iraq, on America, on Israel and Palestine, when every path seems fraught with difficulty.

And then, if we can work out what the 'right' option is, what are we to do with it? The consequences of our actions may seem marginalised when, for example, we look towards the Whitehouse to know what is going to happen in the world. Disempowered must the 1.2 million antiwar protestors have felt when the Coalition waged war on Iraq, and briskly won. Indeed, many changed their views amidst a barrage of contradictory reports, 24 hour news and more spin than a multi-storey laundrette.

But we must be vocal and active and moral, that is our place as left wing activists. Not just in the Jewish community, but in the British community, and in the Global community.

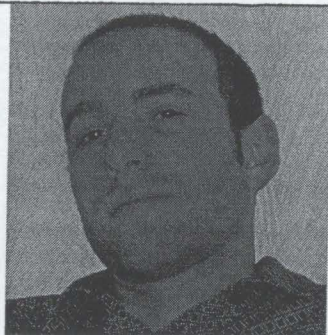
We can find power in our community, and that is precisely what Habonim Dror is for – it is a forum for debate, a platform for our views, and ultimately, a vehicle for our self-realisation.

Thank you to all of you who have made this year a song and a dance. Good luck for machanot and beyond – we all have a part to play in the future.

Aleh ve Hagshem
Daife xxx

Ovdei Tnua

Best wishes from the MARGOLIS family in Israel, London and Leeds



Gizbar ve Rakaz Machanot

It's been a steeply inclined (with the occasional loop) rollercoaster ride since groping the greasy reins of camps organiser. It all started with Shorashim, a weekend in Prague for the

Muchanim, which was chronically enjoyable and left me with a bizarre smile on my face for days. The pan-pipes I received as a thank you present at the end of the Machaneh have been put to good use on the streets of London busking in a small gypsy ensemble. The strong Shnat group we have this year is testament to the amazing atmosphere that they created and create wherever they are.

So then we swiftly moved onto winter camp 2002 - the largest in numbers as well as ruach in many years. The highlight for me was seeing the never-before-tried hadracha machaneh for Konenim being such a blinding success. I know that the future madrichim who attended got an enormous amount out of it and will be fantastic leaders when they staff their first machaneh next year.

But a mere 24 hours after winter camp my personal number one movement experience kicked off: Veida Hagshama in Israel! Using only our wits and our passports 60 crack madrichim voyaged to the land of milk and honey for some serious debates, discussion and fun. Just the action of Habonim Dror descending upon Israel on mass made a huge impression on the external community both in England and in Israel and went a long way to making this year's Israel camp and Shnat a success through dugma ishit. But besides the effects on the external community the culmination of Veida, a day long resolution

session of gargantuan proportions, renewed my faith in Habonim Dror as a thinking movement (not an organisation) who are constantly aiming to better not only the quality of our activities and ourselves but also Israel's future.

Since Veida we have had loads of weekends for all age groups including the socialism weekend which crystallised our stance on this often confusing pillar. It also successfully whipped the issue of social action out of the dusty recesses of our cluttered minds to emerge a sparkling septre guiding us as always towards hagshama.

So this brings us up to date. Summer camps are going well if not rather hectic: neurotic mothers, crying babies and spilt milk. All the summer camps have enough kids on them which is great but we could do with a few more madrichim (anyone?). There is a big reunion event for ex-habonicks in London in three weeks time at Lords Cricket Ground which is set to be spiffing good party. All the money raised is going towards sending chanichim on camp who's parents could not otherwise afford it.

I've had a wonderful year working for HD so far. Although much of my year is up I'll not feel like I'm nearing the end until the last parent has picked up the last happy but tired chanich. It's been fantismo being able to channel my thought and energy towards the movement and its ideology, and I have to thank you chaverim for the time that you give to make Habonim Dror what it is.
Chazak Ve'Amatz, Dan

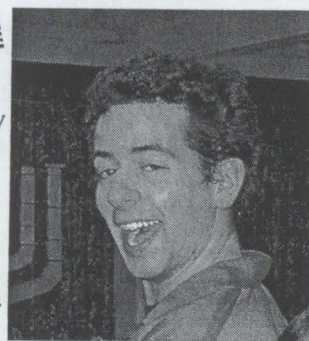
Oved Chinuch v' Rakaz Drom

I must say it is so very exciting to be permanently resident at 523 Finchley Road, possibly the most important address in British Labour Zionism. How much more exciting it is, though, to be a movement worker, to be involved in Habonim Dror activities at every level, 24-7.

The Socialism weekend made me reconsider what it means to be a part of a youth movement, as did my research for Yom HaShoah, Holocaust memorial day, about youth movements in the ghettos of Eastern Europe. Society will not change unless young people like ourselves stand up for what we believe in, especially those as privileged as ourselves - privileged, that is, to be part of a ready-made collective of energetic and talented young people.

We agreed in Bowley that we should adopt a charity that we can contribute to over the whole of next year, using our skills as madrichim to work with disadvantaged Jewish children. We could do this as individuals in our home and university towns, as groups of friends or with the Ken or on Machaneh, and we could make a real impact. What's more, this is the start of a learning process for ourselves - we're learning how to be activists. Friends, we all know the world is in serious need of change - world affairs are directed by profit, not by consideration for our own or others' liberty and happiness. Let us decide to act differently, let us decide to make a difference. And let us not be afraid to start small. In the words of Margaret Mead, "never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever does."

We're building up to machaneh - particularly exciting for me, as I participate from my highest rung yet on the welfare ladder! Machaneh is ace and skill. If Habonim Dror ruled the world, sorry when Habonim Dror rules the world, we will eat sleep live learn and love like we do on machaneh. Machaneh is the perfect time for every one of us to relax in a counter-cultural environment, to challenge the labels the world sticks on us, and to make the most of ourselves. In short, machaneh is the perfect place to start thinking about and enacting hagshama, that is, self-fulfilment, and to educate about those same values that make us want to change the world! So roll on the summer! Love and hagshama, Greg x





Rakezet Tzafon

It's quite hard to sum up what I've done in the last couple of years in a page, let alone four verses of a song, but I've managed ok. HD is the place to be in the

North, kenim are running smoothly, hadracha is magic, numbers are up and people are happy, that's what I like to see! I have loved watching these activities grow and develop and have realised the great importance of our chaverim having a Habonim Dror identity.

For chaverim to be committed to our movement, they need to feel that HD offers something that no other movement can. We have to express our ideology clearly to the community, not just through the words 'Socialism', 'left wing Zionism' and 'cultural Judaism', but through the actions that these words signify. These aims come from the experiences we offer and the environment we create. When chaverim come into the HD environment, they should understand what makes HD different from the rest of society, and why our values are relevant to their lives.

I think the best way to do this is to by implementing the Hadracha Mission statement that was passed on Veida: *Habonim Dror activities exist to create a CONSISTENT ENVIRONMENT which inspires, and is inspired by, HABONIM DROR VALUES, through a structure of EMPOWERMENT, HAGSHAMA and RECIPROCAL LEARNING.*

This statement epitomises what we as a movement should be doing. In particular cases, HDUK already knows how to do it well. What is often referred to as *Machaneh Magic* is really the creation of this environment, allowing young people to learn not just from the peulot that are run, but also from the atmosphere and values that surround them over that two week period. There is no doubt that the effect this environment has on chaverim is immense. If we can do that in two weeks, think what we can achieve if this *consistent environment* exists throughout the whole year.

That is why regular activities for ALL members are crucial to the survival of Habonim Dror as an ideological movement. No-one knows everything about our ideology so we are all in need of being challenged, and for most madrichim, this challenge comes by running peulot for others. HD activities create an environment which not only encourages creativity and education, but one which nurtures an HD family who value our ideology because it directly affects the way they relate to each other and the world. When you feel part of a family then that becomes a central part of your identity.

Our challenge now to communicate to current and potential chaverim and their families all the amazing things that HDUK has to offer. The best way to achieve this is through showing them an HD environment, which exists not just in summer for two weeks, but throughout the year. We have all experienced the magic of Habonim Dror, so let's be true Socialists and give

everyone the opportunity to appreciate all the amazing things Habo has to offer all year round.

And, after nearly two years, that's (almost) all I have to say. I look forward to catching up on the gossip with all of you through numerous MSN conversations or from random visitors to New Zealand. Working for HDUK has been a massive challenge for me both on a personal level and on an ideological one. It's a wonderful movement to be a part of and I am pleased to have been so involved. I want to thank all of you who have inspired and challenged me because it is impossible to reach Hagshama on your own. Finally I want to wish Adam, Dom, Hannah Ian and Dom every success for next year. I have complete faith in your ability to take HD to new heights.

Love and stardust and all the forget-me-nots in the world,
Aleh v'hagshem, Lissa xx

The Chong Song

This thing right here
Is lettin all you chaverim know
What we talk about
You know
The Habo things in life
Hahaha
Check it out

Ooh HD's so scandalous
We know all the chevrae are loving it
See ya shakin that thang like who's da ish
With a look in ya eye so Culturally Jewish

Uh
We like to be in all the hip hop spots
Leeds, Liverpool, North Man, Cheadle,
Hale, Glasgow
Not just for the little tots
Cos we're doing HD Hagshama

Muchanim are the roshim, roshim, roshim
Lomdim like to lead, lead lead
L'pool once a month, month, month
Uh

It's habo in the No-orth
Sleepover in Glasgow, Glasgow, Glasgow
Konenim Hadracha, ha, ha
All year long
Its movement work for Chong

I like it when we all have ruach ruach
And we buy everything on kupah kupah
It's all about hagshama, hagshama
With Chong ch chong chong chong
I like it when we all have ruach ruach
And we buy everything on kupah kupah
It's all about hagshama, hagshama
With Chong ch chong chong chong
Goodbye from your cho-o-ong
Chong ch chong chong chong

The Shaliach Speaks:

Shalom le'kulam!

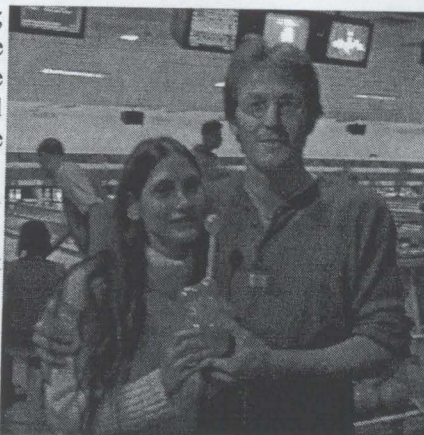
First let me introduce myself to all those that haven't met me yet. My name is Yonatan and I am married to Anat. We are both members of Kibbutz Hulata in the Galil Elion, in the North of Israel; and now we live in Manchester as the new shlichim for Habonim Dror. We arrived in England last September and received a very warm welcome from the community.

Since then I have been trying to understand and to learn how and what is Habonim Dror. I was in a youth movement called Kvutsot Habchirah back home, but there is no HD in Israel. Since I arrived, I have visited all the weekend activities. In that way I have learned more about the movement and about the chanichim, and I have been able to introduce myself to the movement.

I was very happy to take part in a winter camp that was massively successful, and gave me a chance to meet a lot of madrichim and chanichim. Straight after that, we went out to Israel with 60 madrichim for Veida. The Veida was a huge success according to the word of all the experts, and it left me feeling very positive. I believe that now is a good time to thank all those who took part, and especially to thank the tzevet who took the responsibility and organised a super Veida.

My belief is that Veida was a turning point in the movement and that we should use it as a lever for the future.

I am very happy that many chaverim in the movement are taking responsibility to ensure that things happen. The Kenim are now very active: all are run by fantastic Roshim with excellent tzvatim of Madrichim- the key to a good Ken is a regular and devoted tzevet.



Before Pesach we had the Socialism Seminar, with two very important (and imported!) guests on it – Silvio and Rami from Habonim Dror Olami (World HD).

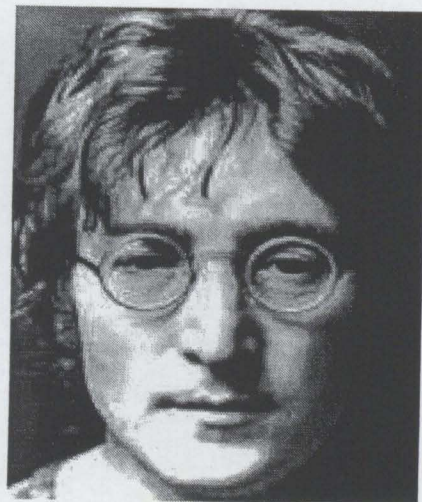
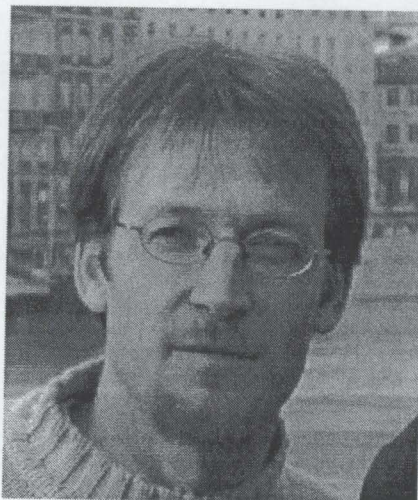
Today there is a new wave of people who say that there is no longer a place for Socialism in the world, but I would like to tell everyone at HD that we must still aim to create a Socialist community in Israel. Today when I speak to people in Israel on the phone or during my visits to Israel, I'm amazed to see that people are more afraid and worried by the policies of the Israeli government than by the security situation.

Many Israelis are concerned by the economic schemes of the present government – people are afraid of losing their jobs and of the increasing poverty.

We as a Socialist movement must protest against the economic situation, while at the same time encouraging the government to do all in its power to lead Israel to achieve a true peace with the Arab neighbours. That is the only way to build the future of the State of Israel.

Finally, it is important that the chaverim of Habonim Dror will always remember that our movement has a glorious past in building Israel, and we should have a part in building the future of Israel.

Chazak ve'amatz
Yonatan



Who's your Shaliach?

*Around the UK snuffling hoards of children press through doors to get to the only weekly activities worth their salt—**Habonim Dror Kenim!** Read on for the latest news:*

HALE

Hale Ken has gone from strength to strength this term / season / semester / trimester / period of time (oh the wacky madness that is Hale Ken). This is mostly thanks to two great groups of dedicated ruach-filled madrichim, imaginatively named Group A and Group B. After some rather crazy publicity stunts including precision planned raids on the deli, the cheders and the butchers, we've been attracting over twenty kids weekly and we hope these numbers will swell after our much hyped move to the new Southside a la Hale shul. Watch out Weisberg we're coming after your title of Keenest Ken!

Arron and Dan and Group A and Group B xxx
P.S thanks to those Shomrim we've been pimping as leaders the odd week, you've been great.



‘Cross the Mersey

Lissa and I walked in to the youth centre's gym to find chanichim playing a heated football match. This was no ordinary match; it was girls vs. boys. The girls were 2-0 up and just about to score their third goal. At this point we knew, we were definitely in Liverpool.

We were there on a mission. To bring joy to kids through Habonim Dror. In the space of four hours, within Liverpool's Jewish Community Centre "Harold House," we had to indoctrinate and brainwash as many Scousers as we could into coming on Camp.

After the football game had finished we introduced ourselves by playing the ritual game of "Bang". We then moved on to play a very amusing Scouse version of "Wishey Washey". I fully recommend playing Scouse Wishey Washey; you will find it very droll at any age. The Chanichim also enjoyed it and afterwards we staged for the Chanichim's pleasure, Pesach Family Fortunes. A lovely bunch of girls were then escorted away to be talked with about whether they feel free or imprisoned by society (much like most of their neighbours' Dads).

We also discussed why they are living in Liverpool and how Habonim Summer Camp will be the best two weeks of their life. The boys had a similar discussion, although it was shorter in length. Mostly due to the fact Real Madrid were just about to kick off against Manchester United for the first time. The Boys and Girls took much pleasure in telling me that they wanted to jeer at their most hated team, I can certainly sympathise with them, Real Madrid are scum.

To Sikkum we took their addresses by telling them we would send their parents a job application form. Instead we have sent them all summer camp brochures. They seemed to take pleasure from it and were very interested in coming on Machaneh. The Chanachim were likeable and lively, I thoroughly enjoyed leading them. Anyone interested in joining the monthly Scouse Missionary Team to continue the ever-succeeding mission at hand should call the Habo office and speak to Lissa, thank you.

Adam Showman

This page is sponsored by M.A.Abramson Charitable Trust

LEEDS

A long time ago (well, around six months), Ken in Leeds was non-existent. A successful Ken had previously been active at The Zone youth centre in Leeds around a year ago when Adam Harris and Merav Kliner took the joint positions of Rosh Ken. After they had gone, for reasons that are still unanswered, the Leeds Ken declined rapidly within weeks.

It was time to get things right in Leeds. It was time to build up a Habo community in Leeds where people essentially came to the Ken in addition to the camps.

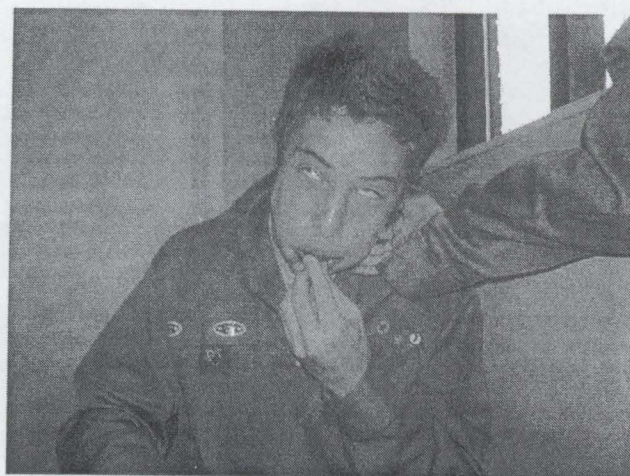
The lovely people in the office asked me if I would like to take the position of Rosh Ken – and I willingly said yes.

Within a seven-week period, the Leeds Ken is now getting around 25-30 eager chanichim every Sunday. This is indeed fantastic for Habonim, but a sense of pride has been felt from the Madrichim and I. I would like to give a huge amount of credit to the Madrichim – Daniel Rose, Daniel Sugare, Daniel Jackson, Ryan Warner, Sophie Bambage, Hanna Phillips and Katie Kremer. They have brought a fresh and upbeat look to the Ken, which we are thriving off.

Joel Tobias



*Left:
Two Chanichim
playing the
Balloon-up-Top
popular game*



*Right:
Bobbie Cousins
attempting the
'How many
grapes' challenge*

North Manchester

The face of North Manchester Ken has completely changed. In fact, the change includes most of the body as well. But how was this new body conceived? Well, Lissa asked me to take up the position of Rosh at a suffering North Man Ken. They were getting on average 6 Chanichim per week. So, drastic action was taken. Motivation of madrichim, advertising, a new logo, a new song (cheers Tom Jones), Hadracha briefings, a new games booklet (with every Habonim game and more under the sun), a 'How to Be a Wicked Madrich (a)' booklet, organisation, a new larger location, enthusiasm, catchphrases such as 'FLOF' (You will never know what it means) and 'Let's Make It Happen', and a Tzevet Table were all set up and implemented. What was the result? An average of 26 Chanichim per week.

This result has been down to one massive element - my unbelievable madrichim. So a massive 'Heyach Heydad' has to go to Nic Zoltie, Bob Cousins, Dave and Mark Fink, Adam Sivner, Anna and Fran Librae, Mike Green, Martine Blume, Maya Grossberg, Nic Pundik, Alex Levin, Vic Gilbert, Dave Moss and Candice Kopman. Due to their unreal hard work to make the Ken what it is now, you may notice that they all have nicknames printed onto the back of their Chultzot. Guys – I could not have done it without you. Let's make it even better for our next and final term of 2003.

'Let's Make It Happen'

Cheadle

Once again, Habonim Dror's Cheadle ken is being re-revolutionised. This years famous revolutionists include the great 'bater of the master' aka Daniel Sylvester and alongside him we have the all famous Caribbean folk singer Aaron Colman. We are planning on adapting our very own socialist views to help revamp south Manchester Habo. We were both just little socialist bredwins living in the ghetto when we were brought up and taught the ways of the true habo force (which is very strange because if you try to produce the sound of the light sabre you actually say the word 'Jew' - try it). however habo has significantly changed over the past 10 years, I feel it is due to the ever increasing demands in our social society. We want to reassess the current situation and go back to our roots if we may. I believe the term on the street is 'old school'. Honestly, we want to experiment with the Chanichim. We will call them, lets say, 'the guinea pigs of south Manchester ken 2003' or 'GPSMK2003' if u want. Well if our legal status allows us to do so.

The way we see it, habo is a movement where social class and status does not make you feel left out, and we want to bring that back. We want to hear the Chanichim singing 'wake up Sunday morning bagels for breakfast'.

However before the ken starts, we have to consult our lawyers and check if Aaron's restraining order permits him to interact with children. Then once we have 'side-stepped' these small matters we are going to make south Manchester ken, the ken to be at.

We are even thinking of adopting a set of Filipino twins, but you do not have to worry, the chanichim will have their fun too.

So, if any of you habo enthusiasts out there have any advice (legal or about habo) then please let us know, because we do seriously want to do all we can.



London

London activities in Habo Dror this year have been an fascinating array of learning, making friends, and having fun. Following the excellent hadracha course, complete with smart, bubbly chanichim who are a pleasure to hang with, we've seen little pockets of fun surfacing in all manner of unexpected places. These have been enhanced by the increased cooperative relationship between Habonim Dror London and Belsize Square Synagogue, the unaffiliated and progressive-thinking shul up the road from North West Ken.

The glorious highlight without doubt was the magnificent day trip to Thorpe Park - a bit like Alton Towers, only further south and with a newer Nemesis ride - the Inferno. We made JC headlines ice-skating at Alexandra Palace, but other great events went neglectfully unreported, like the two-day Kaytana day-camp back in October half term up in Radlett, or the climbing-wall and cinema trip in February. A smattering of Shabbatonim and great intermovement events, such as those commemorating Yom Rabin and Yom HaShoah (heavy, yes, but vital to our Jewish identity) complete the picture.

Ex-bogeret and general dude Philippa Megitt had a short but highly productive and very fun spell as youth worker at Belsize - hats off to her! Besides injecting some dynamism and innovation into London activities, she has helped to pave the way for the next incumbents, a pair of dubious stunted monkeys known as Gran BeJohnowitz (can't they get enough of it? Honestly.)

Hagshama-tastic!

thursdays in black
Demanding a world
without rape and
violence

www.thursdaysinblack.co.uk
thursdaysinblack@yahoo.co.uk

Kenim

SUMMER MACHANOT 2002

365 chanichim and 102 madrichim
on the biggest fattest rollercoaster you've ever seen:

Efrochim Machane Nefesh Yehudi

Machaneh Nefesh Yehudi began in difficult circumstances. Starting with a two hour coach delay, together with a disagreement over which side of the mountain they would arrive on. In an interesting twist, the coach also tried to turn down a road which was only 6 foot wide. We can all share the blame for that seeing as we directed the increasingly angry driver away from the designated car park and towards the aforementioned dirt track. He almost ran us over in revenge. It was an hilarious event for all concerned. When the 50 or so chanichim arrived, we inspected them for any tell tale signs of tribal loyalties. We noticed that some appeared to have extremely bloated heads, some had oversized novelty tongues, and others had an unnatural fear of that great welsh institution that is the caravan. We called in ex-KGB experts to determine which combinations of kids should share rooms with each other. After hours of careful scientific analysis we came up with the perfect combination. Which they destroyed with a Leninite style uprising. They began learning about Jewish Soul that very day. Which was ironic as their kvutso were also named after soul singers. Peulot ranged from a giant stork telling them to find out about Jews around the world, to something with a large eye and lots of stars. The Mirror cleverly called it "a starry eyed surprise". The camp ended with a large "partee" where DJ Jackson played some ambient tunes in a downbeat hovel of a discotheque which doubled as a tzevet room. The little bundles of joy also gorged themselves on a fine specially-prepared banquet of chocolate. They enjoyed eating it as much as we enjoyed watching them. The tzevet, which the Sun dubbed "quite good" consisted of, Ben, Johnny B, Dan, briefly (before those garlic-eating, beret-wearing, right-wing voting frenchies stole him away from us) Dave, Gid, Lucy, Tessa, Esther, Rachel, Johnny L, Steven, Eppy, Michelle, Elliot, Dave M, Hezza, Marc, Tash, Liz, Paulette and Lindsay. Sorry if I forgot anyone, you clearly weren't very important. The Hollywood film of Efrochim 2002 will probably never be made.

Marc E Conway (the one with the bowel problems)

Ofarim Machaneh Lehafil

Oh yoooooooo!!! All of you on Ofarim- how much fun can a Tzevet have? But...what made it so much fun and so memorable??? Could it be our channies (chani) asking us 25hrs a day if we knew their names? Or, was it them asking us if we knew their cousins or when their birthdays were? Maybe we should phone a friend on our sly mobiles and find out...

Our Tzevet was amazing, a mixture of multi-talented, crazy and scary folk. Louis was the Beckham of camp with his Israeli fan club while Josh fought to be just as admired! Percy saw us through our Tzevet meetings, as did the porn secret lovers messages that were being passed by a certain Miss Warner. Filthy! Wazza the ice-cream man ensured our energy levels were sky high and Postman Ben made sure we all had booming social lives on pioneer by inviting us to a kiddies' birthday party. Mr Potato Heeeeee cropped up now and again to make us cackle and the 'Who's cracked' tally was updated throughout the evenings. Our flee infested shanty Tzevet room, where our Roshim chose to sleep was scrummy and the nights were not complete without our evening rendition of 'Miller's back' which prompted Josh to suddenly sprout up screeching 'SARAH!'

Waggi and Dan were incredible and their hard work proved to have paid off on 'Make your own day' (from now on to be a permanent fixture in all machanot - Ed) when the kids outdid the leaders with their imagination and creativity...The Peulot were wicked, but forget the hard work we put into Big Bertha, the Rosa Park's Brain Peula, or the prejudice circus one, it was a bottle of washing up liquid and a hose pipe which culminated in the most fun ever ever ever- the water slide!

Our mornings were filled with Panky, Martin Luther and Benny G singing their hearts out to their original choones, some with actions, Pankywith hankies, whilst Gandhi bopped to their really good 'na na na na na- Gandhi' Kvutza song...Night-time cabarets in the forest were a bit scary, but I suppose seeing their leaders either dead in the audience, suspended from trees foaming at the mouth, or dressed up as multi-coloured clowns in blue boiler suits, was a bit unsettling before bed. The Shabbat lying under the shooting stars, playing guitar and drinking hot chocolate was on the other hand, something we'll always remember.

So many more memories, but no space to write. Camp was amazing. Thanks to everyone for making it so much fun, but mainly to our organisers and Roshim who gave us all one hundred percent support throughout camp, especially at the end where it was needed most.

Keep 'LehaFEELING good'

LET ME C YOUR FUNKY CHICKEN!!!!!!

xxLanixx



Nemerim

Machaneh Shinui

Nemerim...hmmm...well...ok...where do I start (that wasn't for effect-I'm honestly stuck). I think Nemerim is often thought of as the camp "that got away"-the "forgotten" camp. It is often overshadowed by the likes of Cyril n Aaron, who somehow claimed that there camp was "the best ever"-what, was it proven by a National survey, or by impartial adjudicators who somehow went round the country and observed each camp? What made camp work in such a good way, was the mixture of youth and experience. The experience was provided by the likes of Rick Blank who recently retired from his playing career, to claim joint-manager position at the Nemerim club, as well as the likes of Swaz, n especially Georgia- who held together the troublesome youngsters, such as Oshri Amar- I thank you Georgia for the excellent literacy lessons u gave to Oshri over the summer- thankfully he has progressed to learn words such as "I need bed; you just don't understand; I've not been given an education like u" (I'm not sure who he was talking to, I think it was a squirrel). One of the funniest moments was having the delight of seeing a pair of Camel Udders parade round the Tsevet table every night. Who was that I wonder?-no names now. I'll give you a clue- V. Quinn-no no, that's harsh, Victoria Q. The camp was special as we successfully managed to avoid any fatal injuries throughout the camp, to have a totally successful and safe wide game that WASN'T subject to concussed or fatally wounded chanichim. I also have to give a special thanks to Josh Gould, who was instrumental in providing clean, edible food to the kids. G-d-how did we let him get away with that...and then let him eat it!!! I also have to mention the great food we were blessed with by Kat n Kliner- great food, great banter, great dares carried out- well almost carried out- I haven't seen Caroline in a while- I think she's still standing in the Tsevet room waiting for her special kiss from Timmy. Don't worry Cazzar; you've got 4 weeks avec moi- I'll keep u excited-hehe!!!

Overall, the funny times and superb team spirit that was kept throughout (no I'm not gunna mention Dave- we want make it seem a success), made it a really good experience for everyone that took part. The fact that I am able to joke about all these things shows how it wasn't a boring, "forgotten" camp, but one that was a great laugh, and a total (well, if you forget what I just said) success.

Rishonim

Machaneh Messima

Pioneer c'etait superb with lots of great speakers and novelty porn toys. However, there did seem to be something sinister lurking under the surface, after only the second day, the pressure had gotten to some and we were a man down. Luckily however, Deborah Franks stepped in to save the day and proved to be a group leader extraordinaire (that's French for extraordinary). Then on the last day of pioneer the unthinkable happened, we learnt that one half of our inspirational leadership Sir Marcus of Blaskey had developed a holy lung and had to drop out altogether. I won't lie, there were tears shed but Dan the man who can Berelowitz lived up to his name and came to the rescue giving Hannah/Mrs Goggins (NB never been seen in the same room together) the strength she needed to trundle on in her Ja Ja Binks fashion.

Tiyul, well, a great time was had by all thanks to the leaders who managed to pack all the Tiyul magic into a hiking perimeter of 2cm squared in which the only activity on offer was a cross between basketball and Kayaking, yet which was off limits due to the mayor who had sunstroke and as a result had banned all foreigners from the sport.

Main-site was OK I suppose, although we were disappointed to find that our ensuite bathrooms didn't have bidets and that the full size all-weather football pitches didn't have under-soil heating. Tsevet meetings proved brill with late night sessions of listing C-list celebrities to the tune of M-I-C-K-E-Y M-O-U-S-E Mickey Mouse Mickey Mouse. That reminds me, one afternoon we took a trip to DISNEY LAND which was nice - best not mention that every outlet there was sponsored by either N*STLE or E*SO. Seriously though it was a truly amazing day out long to be forgotten. It was also really nice that Marc came out to visit us and I think we were successful in carrying him off to the kids as a passing Bedouin merchant.

So cheers to Hannah, Marc and Dan, Oli and Tami and of course to Abic, Abir, Dan (Captain Keeno), Jenny fat-fingers, Kim, Michaela, Joly Poly, Sherry, Adam, Deborah, Oren, Yaniv, Vered, Yael, Elliot, Lauren and Jane (the naughty Manvilles). -Arron





SAYARIM - MACHANEH OMETZ

Holland was CRACKING. The weather was good and the peulot were successful. For the first time ever we had The Conscience Play under lightning, the Final Solution set on fire (too many candles Kinny) and Erbmman put some of the chaninies into therapy with his brilliant performance of 'I'm a Nazi.' Everyone will agree that AB is anal with his kishut, G-d forbid there should be a crease or rip in any of the posters. Elliot walked around with a pineapple on his head for the duration of camp and also failed in his attempt to get inside Sasha's pants. The real romance blossomed between Schocky and Emma, so much so that we performed a wedding for them. I'm sad to say that has now terminated. Food fights were kept to a minimum, Jodie said there is a fine line (quite wide actually) that we shouldn't cross and to do so would be CHEEKY, Ian agreed, personally I think he was scared Jodie might eat him (he's only small). Nick and Dom were slow at the best of times, but we love em anyway. Finally if any of you readers fancy saving the world and making it better place, contact Lissa but if you just want to take the mick, DON'T. SHE TAKES IT SERIOUSLY.

www.habodror.org.uk



Europe Tour

Owing to the problems in Israel many of us were weary to go. An alternative was to go on Europe Tour organised by Habo Holland. Rather than missing out on a great opportunity 25 chanichim and 3 madrichim took up the chance without hesitation.

First destination was Prague. So we all met at Manchester airport on the 15th July and our summer began. We were greeted by the Dutch and French and spent the first days getting to know them all. It was interesting to see the different variations of Habonim traditions and cultures. We shopped and toured around the beautiful city of Prague until our leadership seminar commenced, run by 5 Israeli madrichim who taught us leadership skills, group bonding and Jewish history.

The seminar was a juicy 10 days including a day-trip to Terezin. It was an intense emotional day and it put a lot into perspective for many of us as we had a memorial service in front of the crematorium.

Prague also boasted "the biggest club in Europe" and we had one of the most amazing nights of tour as we all had a laugh and danced the whole night. Last night in Prague we had ziggim at the hotel with the Full Monty from the Dutch boys and the English football team with the Habo Spice Girls. As a surprise we went on a disco boat along the main river of Prague, we were dancing so much there was a worry the ceiling was breaking below deck.

The French left for home and the Dutch and English departed for Warsaw to visit the Ghetto and the old Jewish synagogue. Beside the Holocaust Memorial Statue we met a very memorable family before the service began. The grandparents of the family had both been sent to Warsaw as children and met there and this was their first time back since the war. It was incredible to see their strength and it made us appreciate our lives so much more.

Our next stop was Krakow with the most horrific hotel but the most incredible restaurants. We toured round the ghetto and visited various synagogues around the city.

The Tatra Mountains were next, with an en route visit to the salt mines 160m below ground. All the walls and the floor were made of salt and there was the most beautiful cathedral completely made of it. During our stay at the mountains we rafted through the valley and on the second day we went on cable cars up to the top of one of the mountains. It was the most incredible view from the top but the four hours down was not so amazing. We had a great incentive to walk fast as we believed we were going to the most beautiful hot springs - we imagined waterfalls and crystal rocks, only to arrive and find a muddy puddle with hundreds of people in it.

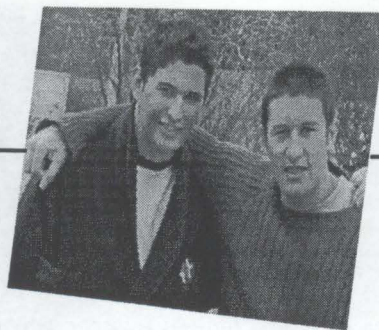
We had an enjoyable journey to Balaton Lake, mooning the Dutch bus with letters spelling 'England' on the boys' arses. Although it was a horrible hotel the lake was wicked and that night after a Shabbat meal we clubbed it up to some excellent music. Next day after a traditional Shabbat lie-in we had mud fights at the lake, which was a great laugh with the exception of a few injuries.

We left the lake for our trip back to Juno - our infamous hotel in Prague. But we had an overnight stop in Brno which was the most incredible hotel with gorgeous showers. On our last night we planned to go back to the "biggest club in Europe", only to find out it had been closed due to the flooding so instead we headed for Club Arena where cheesy music and strippers awaited us!

Early next morning we had to wake up and rush to get to the airport before 12 as many of the main roads were being closed due to the horrific flooding. We arrived at the airport five hours early so had our Final Mifkad in the car park and our final Sikkum near the boarding gate, however being typical Jews we still managed to be late for the plane!

Once we arrived back in Manchester and we greeted by our parents and serenaded Manchester airport with Habo songs, tour was over - never to be forgotten.

On September 17th, 2002, One Man stood at Heathrow with his bags. Though the shichva had collapsed and Shnat had teetered on the brink of extinction, One Man boarded the plane for Israel, representing HDUK 02-3. The Sherminator writes:



Shnat Lives!

It was a surreal feeling when I left my family, Hannah and Dan B at Heathrow back in September. This was my Shnat year, 'The Best Year of my Life™'. But where was everyone else in my shichva? Was I doing something so out of the ordinary? To step onto flight LY318 (I obviously kept the ticket for my Shnat scrapbook) on my own was exciting, but disappointing as well. I still hadn't worked out in my mind why I was about to spend the next 4 months on a random Kibbutz in the Negev with 6 random Habo North Americans.

After a couple of weeks of orientation and tiyulim, we arrived on Kibbutz Revivim with strange looks from the members. New faces on kibbutz are a rarity it seemed. I spent the next 4 months studying Hebrew with new immigrants from all over the world for 3 days a week and working in the kibbutz for another 3 days a week. Yep, when you do the maths, 1 day weekend, takes a while to get used to. The Hebrew was intense, 20 hours a week, but the self-satisfaction of being able to hold a decent conversation with someone whose only English is 'MTV' was special to me. I had (and sometimes got sacked from) various jobs including gardening and the dreaded kitchen before finding my home in the dining room. Ok, I had to wake up at 5.30am, but after a few strong caffeine doses, a good time was had by all, and I felt I was directly helping the whole kibbutz community by serving them their well-deserved mountains of meat and Israeli salad.

Being such a small kvutza, me and the North Americans (they don't like being called yanks) accepted our cultural differences (a roundabout is apparently a 'traffic circle') and managed to live on top of each other for the majority of our time together, as well as negotiating the kupah rollercoaster without projectile vomiting.

The rest of my time on kibbutz would be spent round the campfire, having peulot with our Israeli madrichim, seminars and tiyulim round the country.

Friends aren't easy to make because kibbutzniks see people come and go all the time. The international language of football helped of course, and I converted many to the virtues of Leeds United.

...I had enjoyed much of my time on Kibbutz, got a good grasp of Hebrew and how much political opinions vary from the kibbutzniks. But I felt I would be more suited, being here on my own, to the Machon programme in Jerusalem that started after Kibbutz, to give back more to Habo when I got back. The North Americans didn't understand my decision and gave me a rough time towards the end, but if I came on Shnat on my own, I had to do what I could to get as much out of it.

Having said that, Kibbutz was a very enjoyable start of the year and is an ideal place to form a tight kvutza for the rest of the year when more difficult changes lie ahead.

I'm glad the year below hasn't made the same mistake as my year did.

A year out is valuable, a year with Habo in Israel is the best year out you can find if you have grown up through the movement, or even if you didn't, like me. Come on, I never sunbathed in early January until this year, what more do you want?

Rik Sherman, Leeds

And along came Ste...

We're currently taking part in a programme called Machon and having the most incredible time imaginable. We've experienced so much in such a short space of time and due to this it's very difficult to know where to begin.

I guess the best starting point would be to explain what Machon actually is. It's an educational programme focussing on Hadracha, Zionism, the Israeli/Jewish history and learning Hebrew. The programme (contrary to popular belief) is extremely relaxed, employing informal education and making all lectures and seminars optional. The lecturers on Machon are possibly the most inspiring and knowledgeable people we've ever encountered and we are constantly being encouraged to challenge our beliefs, the beliefs of those around us and to expand our horizons. Aside from our lecturers, seminars are often taken by guest speakers such as the Chief Rabbi, army officials and central political figures.

However, this is but a small component of the Machon experience. So far we've been on the programme for 3 months and we've pretty much travelled the whole country. As a strongly Zionist institution, the Machon places strong emphasis on actually seeing

and experiencing Israel and as a result we've been able to visit some phenomenal places. Particular highlights for us have been a 5 day tiyul through the Negev culminating in the ascent of 'Har Amir', Tiberias, the Galilee, the Dead Sea (including 5* accommodation!), Ramallah (only joking mum), and above all a 4-day music festival between Ashkelon and Ashdod called Boombamela that attracted 50,000 people.

Boombamela is a beach festival which can only really be understood by actually experiencing it. Essentially it's a tree-hugging Hippy event. However, this is not to say that you have to have dreadlocks, a desire to walk around naked, experiment with mind-expanding drugs and have numerous sexual partners (although that doesn't really sound so bad). We can both honestly say we've never seen anything like this in our lives and most probably never will. Boomba was without doubt the best weekend of our lives and we highly recommend it to subsequent Shnat groups.

Other highlights have been Yom Haatzmaut, when the whole of Jerusalem takes to the streets to take part in festivities, dancing, singing - pretty much every person is armed with at least 5 bottles of shaving foam. Purim was also a huge event....Rik dressed as the Queen and I was Raphael from the Ninja

Turtles. The atmosphere at these festivals can only be described as electric and it's greatly moving to see a country so unified and joyful despite the hardships they endure. Furthermore, we feel it important to state that the security at these events is absolutely phenomenal.

Aside from Brits, other participants in the Machon programme are, South Africans, New Zealanders and Australians, from 8 different movements, including 35 from Southern Hemisphere Habo and this mix of cultures and ideologies provides the perfect arena to explore and re-evaluate our Jewish identity and beliefs. It also provides the perfect forum to learn from the southern hemisphere groups and in turn they can learn from us. Though having tried for a number of months, we've given up trying to explain how to play football to the Aussies!!!

Outside of Machon time, the social scene is like nothing we have ever experienced. Every night is a party and we've formed bonds with people all over the world which we know will last for life. We both feel that Machon has been without doubt the highlight of our year and feel extremely lucky to have been given this opportunity. Looking forward to seeing you all soon (actually we're not, we don't wanna leave).
ots of Luv Ste 'n' Rik



Winter 4 machanot. 1 campsite.

Machane MinHazz

It was a chilly morning in October, when a medium-sized brown envelope bearing the stamp of Habonim Dror dropped through my letter box with a quiet 'slip'. It was an ordinary morning, and an Ordinary envelope at that, but the letter inside was far from just that. My application form for Winter Camp had arrived!

Forgive me for the melodrama, but emotions ran high as my eyes zipped over the bright blue document. Emotions of excitement, at the ten days of excitement to come. Fear, at the approaching responsibility of becoming a madricha. And panic, as I slowly realised I couldn't think of any humorous one-liners to write on my application form. Nevertheless, I successfully filled it in, and two months later, found myself in the beautiful countryside, commonly known as Blackburn.

And so began my first Pioneer. As we entered the hall, we were greeted by an ugly witch hanging from the wall, but who soon found herself living in our tzevet room, and was named Mary Pickles, who, according to a lovely plaque discovered on our morning walks, was 'forever cubbing'. Well, we were staying in Scout hut.

As the tzevet of Machaneh Minheret Hazman (conveniently shortened to the much groovier 'Machaneh MinHazz'), we were greeted by our roshim, Adam and Ric, who presented us with the Timewarp song (very fitting, seeing as the theme of Machaneh was time travel) and some lovely presents, including a fantastic bubble wand thing and a whoopee cushion, which, needless to say, brought great amusement to the tzevet meetings.

But enough about Pioneer. After five days of meticulously planning peulot, Winter Camp began, and it was absolutely brilliant. We were situated on the same site as last year, and possibly the best Habo have ever had. The chalets were warm 'yes! Warm!' and there was even enough peula rooms to go round. Why, we even had a climbing frame type thing in the kishut room! (which I managed to get stuck in).

So... we met the chanichim, to whom we introduced ourselves and vice versa to, what else, Step In, Step Out, Come on introduce yourselves 'My name's Gabby (uhuh) and I like Gareth Gates'. Right on right on right on.

Five London boys accompanied twelve girls from everywhere, bringing our chanichim total to seventeen. They were nice kids, but they did smell.

The highlight of camp for us and the chanichim was the fantastic time machine, which entailed four attempts at sticking sheets of tin foil to the ceiling. But with the help of a strobe light and Shuggz's fabulous performance as the Time Lord, the Machaneh Magic was unmistakable. And of course, not forgetting the Culture Peula, which saw our entire tzevet wearing bin bags and tapping forks to our faces running around, screeching 'cheeky cheeky!!'

And so Winter Camp came to an end, as it must do, but it went by almost perfectly. Apart from, of course, the senseless murder of our beloved goldfish which met their end after our kindly roshim, whilst attempting to find a new home for our slippery companions, tripped over a fence (?) watching the fish plummet to their death.

Not that they wouldn't have died after consuming plasticine, chilli sauce and diet coke - I've said too much. A big cheeky thank you is in order to Adam and Ric, our brilliant roshim, and the rest of the MinHazz tzevet: Katy, Gabby, Tash, Mikey, Lani, Adam S and Shuggz for making it such a wicked Winter Camp!

Machane Chokrim

On pioneer we met our tzevet for the very first time. Over the 5 days we bonded as a unit and we were briefed on our mission to lead the chanichim on a fulfilled journey for 5 glorious days in the heart of Wales. The preparation was

intense and tiring at the best of times but with true HABO spirit we survived

with beaming smiles to carry our mission. The elusive day arrived after a night

in our own beds. On a crisp Christmas morning our presents had been delivered. 30

kids and a usual HABO miscalculation. A coach with enough room for the chanichim

but not all the luggage. Why did it happen to the Hale bunch?

After a few phone calls to Greg and Dan we were on our way.

Well, all those

apart from Ilan and Syral who had a little babysitting job to do of looking

after the left luggage till the famous **Budget** van arrived.

We arrived safe and well with everyone needing the toilet. The site was

first class and of a five star Habo standard with no toilets just big bushes.

All our peulot ran very smoothly indeed and all the kids loved them.

The tzevet

meetings kept us alive with smoked salmon and crackers with Ben & Jerry's ice cream.

At the end of the camp, the kids went home after having the best Christmas ever and we felt a huge sense of achievement.

In conclusion, another very successful winter camp.

By Ben Myers & Jonny Cohen.

You do the maths.

Machene Agadim

Winter camp was a truly a wicked and memorable experience. I can't say I've ever been so tired and had so much fun, and all in the space of a week.

Pioneer began in the beautiful and luxurious resort of Blackburn scout camp, where we were greeted by the scout leader and his two sons, and instructed what to do if the fire alarm were to go off. It was really fun I promise, running outside at 10'o' clock at night when it was minus five.

Roshim: Steeno and Esther had several ideas up their sleeve to get the madrichim in a jokey and relaxed mood, don't worry though, no drugs were used!! All madrichim auditioned to be in the tzevet in the theme of the current TV series of 'Fame Academy'. Before pioneer began the Roshim had rung us up to tell us to bring teddies. We were about to find out why. 'Teddy bear Big Brother'. Unfortunately my teddy, Bob was voted out on the first night, for being too talkative.

The Tochnit of Machaneh was community and World Habo, with many of the peulot being based around fairy tales such 'the BFG'. Planning the peulot was wicked fun, especially ones such as the murder mystery and the big opening extravaganza for the kids. Making the kishut was a dodle for our tzevet. On the last night when the other tzvatim were working throughout the night to get theirs finished, my tzevet were tightly snuggled up in bed, preparing for the days ahead!!

The 25th of December, the start of winter camp. On arriving at Hale Square to meet the kids, I was surprised at two things. The size of the coach (rather small) and that the coach was actually on time. UN-BELEIVABLE. There wasn't enough room for all the kids bags, so me and Dan Sylvester had to stay behind with the bags until the organisers came to the rescue in the Budget van.

When getting to the site in North Wales, I had little time to set up the first peula which was the extravaganza. It all went to plan, I think. I was dressed as Austin Powers, a man on a mission with a hairy chest and pointy glasses, introducing all the relevant characters involved in the Tochnit. As usual that night the kids didn't really sleep, they were just so excited for the days ahead.

The next day, the kids were put in kvutsot. All with a fairy tale theme, they were called BFG, Glitter and Robin Hood. All had brilliant songs and kriot, as we enjoyed our first proper Mifkad. The Machaneh song to the tune of Outback was loved by the kids, so much so that they created their own actions.

Each day was another challenge. We'd organised some really good peulot for the kids, with some really good kishut. We even made a Habo Airlines plane. The kids, smelly at times, because they hadn't showered, were great and really enthusiastic. Camp was wicked. Thanks must go to all the Rosh's and organisers who were brilliant. Chirs
By Ilan Scorch

Machane Kesem

Dearest HDUK,

I
t's important to know that my experiences in London were not easy. The ken is cold, access to hot water is sporadic, and shabbat came in at 15:30!! However, (and sorry, but sweet talking is appropriate here) I did learn a lot. It took me a while to get settled. We may be a part of the same movement, but at times it felt as though we were on two different planets. You have movement workers, no permanent shichva tzvatim during the year, and for godssake you call *butcher paper lining* paper – all of which were hard concepts for little me to grasp. Admittedly, there were times when I wanted to leave... but I didn't. I stuck it out and found what I was looking for in one of the most unexpected places. An enchanted little storage cupboard (Harry Potter style) hidden in a corner of the cheder ochel on pioneer – the birthplace of Machaneh Kesem.

For those of you who don't know, Machaneh Kesem was somewhat experimental – a week of hadracha for Konenim at the time of winter camp (sorry, my bad – winter ACTIVITIES)...let me just say, we may have been the "cute and cosy" (not "small"), but man! Did we whip up a group of hadracha wizards! Granted, they are the biggest group of habo "keenos" I have ever seen. Who would of thought that good old Charlie Rich would claim to never misbehave in a peulah again?!

On a final (and once again 'kooshy') note...thank you to my tzevet, Ian, Waggy and Lissa (who were the roshim again??), a wicked group of konenim, and of course, 3D snakes and ladders – all of which managed to keep me sane...and who knows, maybe I'll be back for a visit some day..."maybe"!

Love Courtney 'coco' Winter
Ozziland

PLANET HD



"Hello, my name is Inigo Mantoya, you killed my father, prepare to die..."

Habonim Dror is a worldwide phenomenon, thriving in over 20 countries. Silvio Joskowicz, the World Mazkir, and James Grant-Rosenhead, the head of the HD Olami English Desk and onetime Mazkir of HDUK address the British movement, the place where it all began...

Koleinu Shalom,

I am proud to have been asked to write to your prestigious magazine in my capacity as the World Mazkir of Habonim Dror. I am proud entirely thanks to you, and thanks to all those many chaverim who, like you, are the members of Habonim Dror around the world - it is only thanks to what you do that I am able to be proud. You should be proud of yourselves too, and I am going to explain a little about why.

World Habonim Dror is truly international. You have branches in Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Mexico, the USA, Canada, South Africa, Zimbabwe, New Zealand, Australia, France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Hungary, Sweden, and of course Britain. In each and every one of those countries, Habonim Dror plays an extremely important role in the Jewish community and in the wider society:

- The Jewish world is being injured by a double edged sword: anti-Semitism and assimilation on the one side threaten our very existence, whilst on the other side anti-Zionist ultra-orthodox religious fundamentalism is reaching more and more of our people with its coercive, monopolistic, exclusive, divisive, narrow interpretation of Judaism. In Habonim Dror we touch the lives of many thousands of individuals, often those who are most at risk of assimilation, enriching and strengthening their Jewish identity with our rich, open, creative, tolerant, questioning, multifaceted, approach of Cultural Judaism.

- Israel is being physically attacked by terrorism, which deliberately murders innocent civilians, whilst the international media bias against Israel presents only our occupation and settlements, only our military strength and our political weaknesses. Habonim Dror, together with much of Israel, strives for peace with all of our Arab neighbours, including the creation of an independent Palestinian State, and including peaceful coexistence and equal rights for our Israeli-Arab minority. Our Zionism places Israel as the spiritual and cultural heart of the individual's Jewish identity, as the soul of the Jewish communities, and as the centre of the Jewish world. Our ideological Hagshama of making aliyah completes the centrality of the State of Israel by making it also the physical centre for many of our graduates from around the Diaspora.

- The materialistic culture of the western world encourages us to run faster and faster towards selfish individualism. Ignoring the plights of fellow members of our society has become easy. The economic efficiency of capitalism dictates that we must turn a blind eye whilst raping the planet of our natural resources. The unstoppable size and power of globalization and multinational corporations insist that 'the survival of the fittest' must continually increase the gaps which gape between our wealthiest and we

akest, between our famous and famished human beings. In Habonim Dror we stand firmly against this stream, no matter how strongly it flows, knowing from both our Judaism and our Socialism that, whilst unique, all people are ultimately equal. Our Socialist values guide our hearts and minds in striving to heal the world in the most noble spheres of social justice, equality, human rights, environmentalism, peace, coexistence and community, through the activist 'dugma ishit' of every member.

Within this glorious international movement, HDUK has a special place as the pioneering first Habonim in the world. Such chalutzik spirit has often distinguished you, including building our movement's first kibbutz, Kfar Blum, and more recently the movement's first urban kibbutz, Kvutsat Yovel. In 1997 you were the first of any Zionist youth movement in the world to bring your Veida to Israel, celebrating 100 years since the 1st World Zionist Congress. Now you have set the standard for others yet again, by bringing your Veida to Israel at this challenging time. Rami and I were very impressed when we came to visit your Ethical Socialism Weekend, and we sense great things happening in the British movement. Remember - you should be proud of yourselves. Aleh Vehagshem, Silvio Joskowicz, World Habonim Dror Mazkir.

Dear Koleinu,

I am writing from Migdal Ha'Emek, a northern Israeli 'development town' with a small population, including many immigrants from Ethiopia and the Former Soviet Union, high unemployment, and plenty of social problems. There is nothing much to do here - no restaurants (except for the couple of standard schwarma / falafel stands), no cinemas, no pubs, nor even a video shop. Extremely beautiful green hills and valleys surround the town, and it is near several major towns (Nazareth, Afula, Carmiel, Haifa, Tiberius). But what has any of this got to do with Habonim Dror?

Habonim Dror was always in the 'kibbutz building business'. Internationally, thousands of HD bogrim (graduates) have lived out their Socialist Zionism and Cultural Judaism, in practice, by building and joining kibbutzim. HD worldwide has built and developed about 50 kibbutzim. HDUK bogrim first started living out their movement ideology by building Kibbutz Kfar Blum in the 1930's, and such 'hagshama' (fulfillment / realisation) continued until building Kibbutz Tuval in the 1980's. Unfortunately, the 1990's consolidated crises and changes for many kibbutzim, and for HDUK this resulted in a lack of direction. Everything in the movement used to build up to 'kibbutz' as the ultimate goal, and so when kibbutz became questionable, so did the movement's direction.

A group of us who were active in HDUK in the 1990's decided to try a new experiment. We wanted to find a new direction for the movement, and for ourselves. We still believed in Socialist Zionism and Cultural Judaism, and after we had finished university we wanted to live Habonim Dror lives, but we weren't inspired by kibbutz. We didn't want to be farmers, and we each had our own professional career ideas. We also understood that the needs of Israel today are urban - the activist struggle for peace, democracy, minority rights, social justice, coexistence, welfare, education, the environment, equality, human rights, etc. We decided to build an urban kibbutz.

4 years ago, we started as 3 HDUK bogrim in Jerusalem. We have since been joined by HD bogrim from Australia, Canada & the USA. Jerusalem was a great place to start, especially for learning Hebrew at Ulpan, studying at University, and finding work in English and in Hadracha. However, we felt small and alone as a group, and so we recently moved up here to Migdal Ha'Emek, to join forces with some Israelis. There are 8 of us here from Habonim Dror, and our group is called Kvutsat Yovel. There are 4 other groups here with us, all native Israelis, making a total of 45 people in our 'kibbutz' in Migdal Ha'Emek.

How does it work? Kvutsat Yovel uses 'full open kupah' - one bank account with all of our names on it, and all of our money in it. Everyone has a cash card and cheque book, so we must learn to be honest and trust each other. We make decisions by consensus, which takes a huge amount of time and patience. We put plenty of energy into our Cultural Judaism, including learning together as a group and celebrating every Friday night and festival with our own critical and creative approach. We eat together in our 'cheder ochel' every day. We have small group meetings (called a 'mini-minyan') to build better communication and deeper relationships between us, and we have a big weekly 'asepha' called 'yom kvutsa' to decide about everything as a group. We each try to actively contribute towards peace, social justice and equality in Israel, sometimes in volunteer work, sometimes in paid work, sometimes as individuals, and sometimes as a group.

Group life sometimes feels like 'Big Brother' except without the TV cameras. Interpersonal 'issues' often need resolving between people, and it is difficult to hide away and find privacy. Perhaps the hardest part is finding enough time. Whilst many 'normal' people have to carefully balance studying / working towards their career, seeing friends, developing relationships / families, managing finances, etc., we are juggling all of those things whilst simultaneously learning Hebrew and building our new community.

Many people ask why we are here. It is not easy living in Israel. Besides the terror attacks and the looming potential of war, Israeli society is constantly rife with economic crises, racism against minorities, sexism, poverty, homophobia, environmental abuse, fatal traffic accidents, orthodox religious coercion, and violence in the family and in schools. Our answer is that HD bogrim built this country, and so we should not now turn our backs and pretend that our creation is somebody else's responsibility. In Habonim Dror we always had a vision of Israel being an exemplary society, and we took responsibility for building it. As the anthem goes: "Od Lo Gamarnu" - "We haven't finished"!

Wishing you the 'chazak ve amatz' (strength & courage) to strive for your dreams,

James & Kvutsat Yovel.

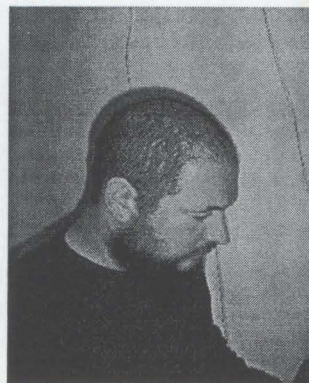
Shaving James..



before

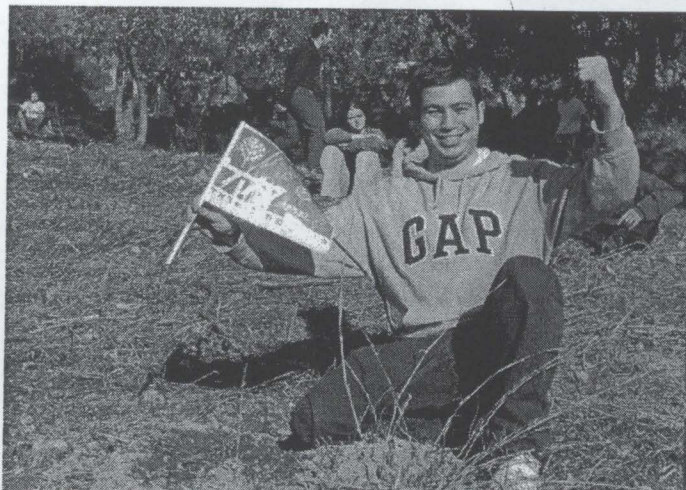


during

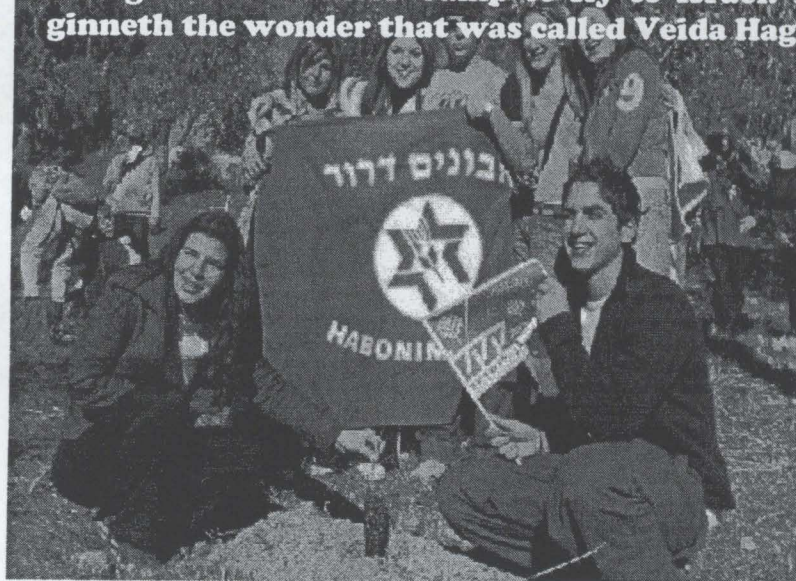
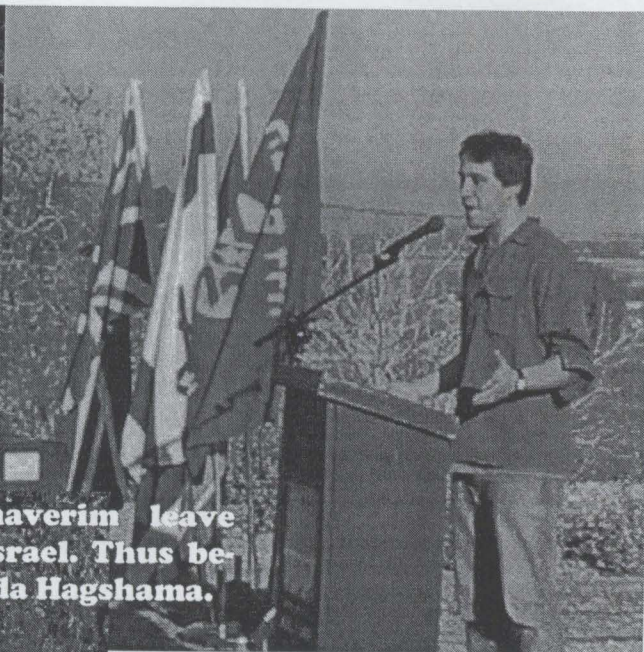


after

HD Olami



December 29th 2002. 60 HDUK chaverim leave straight from Winter Camp to fly to Israel. Thus be-ginneth the wonder that was called Veida Hagshama.



Ian doffs his caplan...

Veida Hagshama saw 60 of Habo's finest descend on Tiberias for an intensive few days of fun, frolics and ideology. Things started bright and (very) early with an unusual JNF ceremony (apparently Kiddush wine and challah at 7:00am on a Monday morning is perfectly normal!), a nostalgic view for some onto beautiful Beit Shemesh, and some hard graft in the new Habo forest. Then it was off to our luxurious abode on the banks of the Kinneret for a day or two of peulot (that Hagshama word cropping up here and there). New Year's Eve was spent in the company of quantity of alcohol at a Kibbutz pub, with much mirth and merriment ensuing.

Not even a hangover could hamper the enthusiasm and excitement for New Year's Resolution session (well, in general at least!). By the end of a long day of deliberation & cogitation, amendments, amendments to amendments, amendments to standing orders to allow discussion of amendments to amendments... one thing was blatantly clear. This had been a fantastic affirmation of what we stand for as a movement and where we are going. Highlights include (extensive) debates about Shabbat, a confirmation of our left-wing Zionist beliefs as well as changes that will ensure we continue to improve the way we educate our chaverim. The next morning it was back to the airport, stopping en route (!) in Carmiel to meet some familiar faces on an aliyah panel.

So there it is – it may have been brief but it was certainly busy! A massive Heyach to everyone who had a hand in planning and organising Veida, and I hope everyone found it to be as amazing and inspiring as I did. Aleh ve hagshem!!



"Wishing you every success now and in the future"

This page is sponsored by Alex and Ros Steen

Michaela sings its praises...

Veida in Israel. Faced with internal conflicts from right wing elements of the Jewish community, and external anti-Israel motions pervading Unis everywhere from the left, Habo's ideals have taken a battering from all angles. It was time to revitalise the "spirit of the Dror" with a merry little pilgrimage to the Promised Land. Or, alternatively, with a mob of guitar carrying, soul searching, Habo junkies all braving the cockroaches of Tiberias and proving that Habonim Dror would never desert Israel. After spending a rigorous day basking in the sunshine and planting trees at the JNF forest, we settled in Tiberias. Despite the not so delightful accommodation, the fantastic view of the kinneret made the location worthwhile. Dan delivered his promise of a "Phat" New Year's Eve party at a Kibbutz pub, where we proved that our barmy army excelled the trance-obsessed Israelis in both our dancing, and pulling techniques. The Finale, however, and for me the highlight of Veida was the resolution session, which lasted a full twelve hours. 60 madrichim, a laptop, a video camera and a lone shnattie fiercely debated on resolutions from the fundamental pillars of socialism to the effects that Starbucks coffee has on our group consciousness. A virgin to Veida, and a lover of true democracy, my first experience of politics within Habo was not only utterly inspiring, but was proof that Habo is moving forward. Ideas, amendments and Turkish coffee kept us in full flow till dawn, when those lovely Israeli pigeons started chirping furiously. We're known as a "kinda' crazy hippie youth group", yet Veida illuminated the great strengths in the determination of both Habo's idealism and membership. I'd Watch out Kids, cos Habo is evolving.



2003

Hagshama



Veida hagshama

New Year's Resolutions

Veida Hagshama culminated in a 13-hour resolution session packed with passion and heated debate. Here behold the 14 resolutions discussed and voted upon:

Affiliation with Ma'agal Hakvutsot and Kibbutz
For: 45 Abstentions: 1
 HDUK should affiliate itself to the Ma'agal Hakvutsot (circle of groups) and educate towards their model of hagshama. Aliyah to urban kibbutz will be one of the two expressions of ultimate hagshama of our ideology alongside socially active aliyah to agricultural kibbutz.

Konenim Hadracha
For: 54
 This Veida proposes that hadracha be run throughout the year for the Konenim (yr.11) in the form of weekends, winter camp and helping run the kenim. Part of the winter camp should include writing and running peulot for other machanot.

Machaneh Mission Statement
For: 52 Abstentions: 2
 Habonim Dror activities exist to create a consistent environment which inspires, and is inspired by, Habonim Dror values, through a structure of empowerment, self-realisation and reciprocal learning.

Shabbat on Machaneh

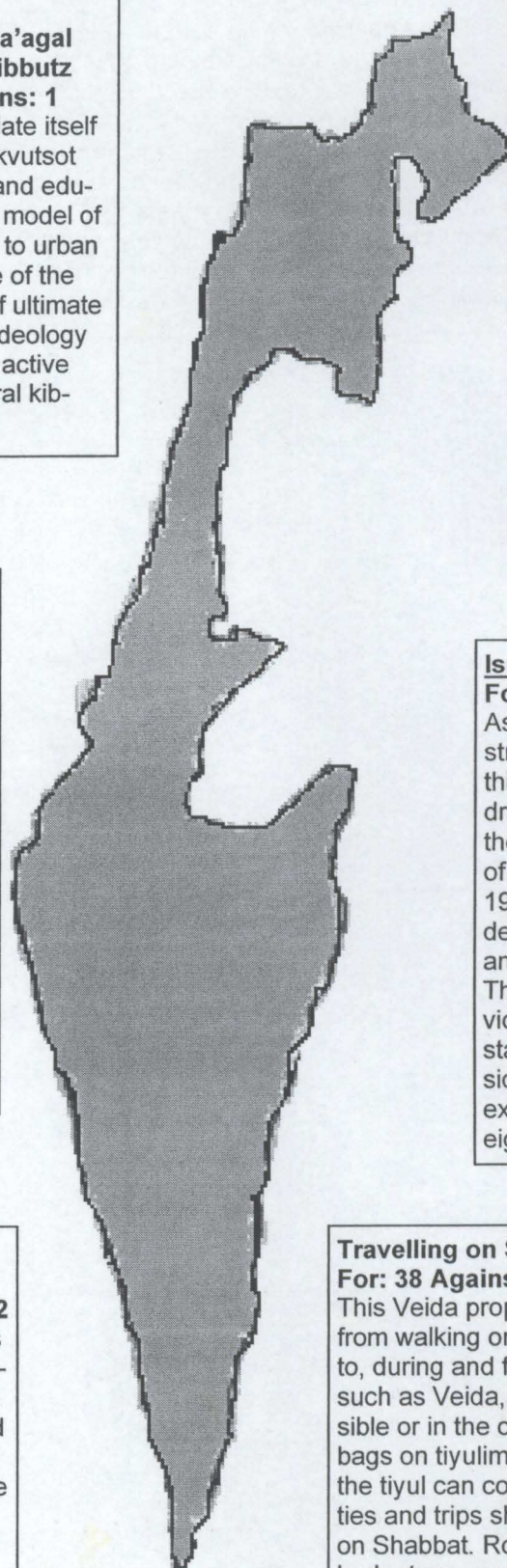
For: 31 Against: 1 Abstentions: 2
 On every pioneer in Habonim Dror the entirety of Shabbat must be mandatorily prepared in accordance to the following aims:
 The tzevet must aim to create absolute unity on machaneh through the activities it chooses to do.
 The tzevet must aim to create a feeling that Shabbat is a special day and inspire the chaverim to explore why.
 The tzevet must write a peulah for Shabbat based around the week's se-dra.
 The tzevet must discuss amongst themselves their ideas of what Culturally Jewish Shabbat is, and how it should be celebrated on their specific machaneh

Israeli Politics

For: 46 Against: 7 Abstentions: 3
 As a Zionist youth movement who strongly supports the state of Israel, this Veida believes that a military withdrawal and settlement evacuation from the West Bank and Gaza, and creation of a Palestinian State based around 1967 borders, will allow a just and self-determined future for both the Israeli and the Palestinian peoples.
 This Veida calls for an cessation of violence on both sides and for any final status agreement to include each side's recognition of the other's right to exist within agreed, secure and sovereign borders.

Travelling on Shabbat

For: 38 Against: 6 Abstentions: 6
 This Veida proposes that travelling by any means apart from walking on Shabbat to, during and from machanot, to, during and from pioneer, weekends and trips away such as Veida, Alton Towers, be avoided wherever possible or in the case of group consensus. On Shabbat all bags on tiyulim should be given to the Budget Van and the tiyul can continue without bags. Dates for the activities and trips should be worked out, avoiding travelling on Shabbat. Roshim and Organisers travelling in the budget van on Shabbat is at their own discretion.





MYOD (Make Your Own Day)

For: 37 Abstentions: 3

Against: 13

This Veida proposes that on summer machanot a day will be scheduled for "MYOD", or 'Make Your Own Day' ('Mi Od' means 'Who Else' in Ivrit).

The day will be run entirely by the kvutsot and each kvut-sah will co-ordinate a segment of the day. One madrich and one chanich from each kvut-sah will form a 'Va'ad MYOD' which will co-ordinate the day and limit overlap.

The madrichim's role will be at the discretion of each kvut-sah. However, their responsibility lies in steering the activities according to an educational or value-based system

Connection with HD Olami (1)

For: 54

That we aim to have an HD Olami-directed shnat, the particulars worked out between all interested groups

Connection with HD Olami (2)

PASSED For: 25

Against: 6

Abstentions: 2

To hold a Bogrim seminar with other European HD's in the next movement year.

The Language of Habonim Dror

For: 45 Abstentions: 2

More effort should be made to refer to chaverim by their shichva names rather than the generic term of 'chanichim' as it shows their development and progression through movement life.

This Veida motions to change the names of the shichvot jnr chotrim and jnr bonim e.g. shomrim.

This Veida motions that each shichva should have a name which they keep throughout their movement career from the age of 9 to 23, to be set on Sababa.

Social Activism

For: 33 Against: 3

This Veida proposes to create an Activism Worker tafkid as part of the movement work tzevet commencing August 2003.

This job would include organising activism events and projects for madrichim, chanichim, and on campus (possibly co-ordinating with a designated ambassador on each major campus). They would collaborate with many charities there, ranging in issues from homelessness to inter-faith events. The job would begin by organising a post-Sayarim chanichim-driven activity.

As a movement that moves, we must always be active.

Ethical Socialism

For: 40

POSTPONED:

This Veida proposes to change the name of 'Socialism' in our ideology to 'Ethical Socialism'

AMENDED:

Changing our ideology requires in-depth study. A seminar should be held later this year to discuss socialism and the possibility of changing our ideal to ethical socialism.

This seminar should have the mandate to change the socialism pillar should it so wish.

Support of Israel

For: 53

Habonim Dror UK aims to hold Israel Camp for 16 year olds, Shnat Hachshara in Israel, and to visit Israel whenever possible on trips like this.

Parasha Choveret

For: 52 Abstentions: 2

This Veida proposes that the choveret be completed to include every sedra with extra commentary on the parashot that occur round the time of machanot. This book should then be published and distributed with external funding among our chaverim and the Jewish community at large.

Affiliation with Peace Now UK

For: 27 Against: 8 Abstentions: 7

This Veida resolves that HDUK immediately affiliate with British Friends of Peace Now, becoming the first youth movement to do so. This Veida also resolves that HDUK will involve itself with projects of British Friends of Peace Now to show British society that there is a left wing voice within the Jewish community.

He Went to a Land Down Under

A massive island bigger than Spain has been discovered just South of the Spice Islands! Our Special Envoy Lt. Gen. Steven Berke reports on Antipodean antics ...

The plan was to travel to the paradise Whitsunday islands of Australia to work on luxury yachts, chill in the Aussie sun, watch Neighbours and have lots of bbqs.....It was to be the greatest three months of our lives. That is until we were stopped by the immigration dept at the airport who politely asked us to accompany them to their detention centre for 'illegal immigrants'! Evidently we had the wrong visas. We were locked in separate rooms and interrogated for 3 straight hours, our conversations were recorded, Elliot was given an anal probe, and we were issued with a 'notice of intention to cancel visa'! This would have meant us flying back to England on the next flight home. "You have 10 minutes to put forward your case as to why we should allow you to stay!" This seemed fair to me.

They began with my close friend and travelling partner Mr Elliot Cohen. Elliot won't let us down, he'll sort this out. I was sure of it. You can imagine my horror and disbelief when I saw the immigration officer leave Elliot after just 30 seconds. Apparently Elliot couldn't think of anything to say!!!!!! To cut a long story short, I argued for a long time and eventually we were permitted to stay in the country, as visitors. This meant no paradise islands, no luxury yachts and most importantly.....no money! Yet if ever there was a blessing in disguise, this was it. We were sure in a pickle! Two nice young yiddisha boys, thousands of miles from home and family. What to do? What to do?

Wait one cotton picking moment.....haven't we had a couple of small people from this neck of the woods staying with Habo in England! (well one's a kiwi, but what's the difference?) Maybe we could go and stay with Habo Australia! Good thinking Batman.

With that, all our troubles disappeared. We contacted Aussie Habo in Sydney and told them what brought us to the land down under and of our predicament. It's at this point that I realised the strength of Habo as a worldwide community. After a brief trip down the coast we arrived in Sydney and were welcomed by complete strangers as if we were part of the family.

We were to live in the Sydney ken, help out wherever possible and eventually we'll take their summer camp (but don't tell immigration coz that's classed as work!) Within days we felt as if we had known these strangers for years. It's an amazing feeling to know that on the other side of the world there are other people who know our songs, play our games, share our ideology and they got ruach, yes they do!

There are certainly a lot of differences in the way Habo's run down under and there's so much that we could learn from each other. The Aussies are given an age group when they become leaders and this remains their shichva for their time in Habo as this helps to build and develop relationships. A lot more emphasis is placed on the running of the ken and the numbers they get week in, week out are phenomenal. However, although a major highlight of their year, their camps do not dominate the calendar as ours do. Over there there are no kvutzot, no camps abroad, no pre-main site tiyulim and no pioneer (all the planning is done weeks before). Yet what they do have is a tiny little age group called Shorashim....they're so little, aren't they cute!

However, these differences are superficial, skin deep. We are essentially all part of the same community, we believe the same things, act in the same manner and most importantly have a great time. I really feel privileged to have been able to spend this time with Aussies. We've met some amazing people, but most importantly we've experienced first hand the vastness and splendour of Habo as a worldwide movement!

It'd make sense to finish this article on that hopefully touching and poignant note, but I think its important to tell you that I haven't heard one person say 'streuth', 'bonza' or 'put another shrimp on the barbie'! I'm as outraged as you are believe me, bloody phonies!

With Best Wishes

from

Heron Solicitors

0161-718-1188

After a few difficult years for HDUK in Israel, around 20 hardened chaverim have decided that there is only one place to be. Daniel Weisberg opts for...

Shnat 2003

would do anything to spend a year with these extraordinary friends. To be brief, I shall go to the Mother Land with them. Who

'Organisation is the key, to life and vitality'. This is one of my many 'genius' mottos in life. It works alongside ideas, such as 'Enthusiasm is the key to life and vitality', but this is not the point I am trying to make. My point of interest was that I hate being disorganised. Many would agree that this sums up my character. For me, everything has to be organised, tidy and in order. The sole reason for my previous statement was that I had to sort out my plans for a 'Gap Year'. This is something that is very important to me, and up to several months ago, I had no idea what I was going to do, or even if I was going to do anything. This meant that I was disorganised, and as this slightly contradicted my motto, I was not happy!

I had to sort this dire situation out (it really was dire, like...terrible) and quickly too, as these little, crappy, pointless thoughts of mine eat away in my mind, annoying the hell out of me. Everyone has had one of those thoughts. For example: leaving a wardrobe open just a little by accident, and you are in bed. It would drive me crazy until I shut it. Everyone gets that voice in their head – or is it just my Obsessive Compulsive Disorder kicking in? Anyway, I logged onto the internet, being the extreme computer nerd that I am, and I typed in 'Fun Things to Do on A Year Out'. I found a website, for some reason called 'Pointlesstransliterations.com', and I bet you did not know that 'Year Out' in Norwegian Bokmål is transliterated as 'Hubo Snit Muchnim'? Is it me, as I am not really a socio-linguistic kind-a person, or does this resemble something quite striking? 'Habo Shnat Muchanim' perhaps? Well, language-struck, I took off to school the next day, and pointed this out to my 'anyistøck' (that is 'friends' in Norwegian Bokmål by the way!). 'This is a sign – seriously' Adam Showman and Arron Ferster pointed out. 'Thank-you weird unknown language, you have told us to go to Israel for a Year Out' according to Marc Conway. And for me, this is enough reasoning for me to go!

Many members of this year's Muchanim (next year's Shnatties) would love to be part of The Habonim Dror Shnat Year. I can put my hand on my heart, even though that does absolutely nothing, and say that we are going on Shnat. It will be unreal. I have just returned from an unbelievable four day tour round Prague, which, according to the Jewish Telegraph, I exclaimed was 'Amazing©^{Daniel Weisberg}'. This was my first experience of a wicked 'Shnat Weekend'. I really loved this trip, as well as Israel Tour, Sayarim, Rishonim and Ofarim. There is one underlying reason for this – our Shichva. We are an amazing year, and I

knows? We are a close year, we spend a lot of time together, we greet each other by saying 'Hello', and I believe all of us would love to spend a marvellous year in Israel together. Detailed* discussions have proved this point.

*By 'Detailed', I mean the five spare minutes I had last week – minor point.

I have believed for a long time, and I still do believe that Shnat will be safe, and secure. It is clear that the situation is causing problems. But with the situation as it is now, many of us will be able to join the Habo Shnat Bus / Car / Train / Monster Truck 2K3. For me, I believe that it would be a real shame to miss it. Our year works so well together, and if we are not all there, those Shnatties will definitely be missed. In my opinion, Habo would not send us, and Israel Experience would definitely not send us if any of us are going to be unsafe.

However, a serious matter is bugging me. What is the answer to the following question?

'Israel' Define (5 marks)

The Oxford English Dictionary 2002 'The New Concise Dictionary', explains:

Israel, iz-rā'l, n.

- The amazing country with arms open for Shnatties 2003
- b) The country where something new can be experienced every boiling day.
- c) Ruach, culture, immense fun!



Yom Ha'atzmaut Was Unbelievable, But Where Were You?

Set the scene – 350 people in the massive theatre of the CIS building in Manchester. Balloons, Israeli flags and pictures drawn by the budding artists of the Jewish Primary Schools.

Two brave Chanichim from BA march onto the stage to cheers, shouts, screams and tomatoes from Aish backbenchers. FZY come on to lesser shouts, great cheers, applause, and whacked by knickers and bras. Two Habonim Dror chanichot stride out in their brand new chultzot to cheers, applause and huge shouts from myself, Dan Conn, Dave Moss, Lissa and Yonatan and Dan Blaskey (The Master of Ceremonies in true Habo style). The question that is burning up inside of us all is 'Where Were You?' It's a rhetorical question so stop making excuses whilst you're reading this.

The two girls started to chuckle whilst they attempted to read their representation in the evening. It was definitely worth seeing.

The night was full of Israeli music, powerful TV clips, speeches, friends, games for the youngsters (and yes, I played), songs, other Zionist Youth Movements and celebratory actions – mainly arm waving.

So, missing out was unfortunate, but in brief, I can summarize the night:

55 years since the Independence of the State of Israel; celebratory arm-waving; Israel needs your support – Shnat, tour and holidays.

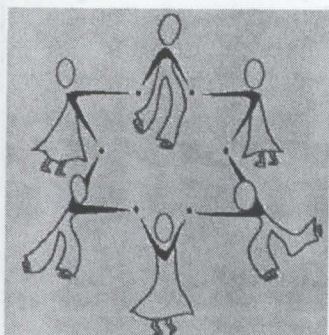
What are you waiting for?



Back row: Daniel Weisberg, Daniel Conn
Front Row: Victoria Lewis, Sara Geller



Dan Conn supporting Israel with Habonim on stage with the Israeli Flag



Culture of Identity

Abigail Radnor *looks deep into her Jewish Soul...*

If someone asked you what is like to be Jewish today, what would you say? . . . Difficult, isn't it? When I started to think about this question, I found my main stumbling block to be that for me, being Jewish is not something I do, it is a part of who I am.

I'll be the first to admit that I don't go to Shul every Shabbat nor do I attend a Jewish school but there are several aspects of my life that all contribute to what I feel is a fairly strong Jewish identity. From Jewish assemblies at school to lively Shabbos lunches at my Grandma's house with all the family to smoked salmon and cream cheese bagels on a Sunday, it's all a part of being Jewish for me.

Perhaps one of the largest and most influential expressions of my Judaism is through my participation in Habonim Dror. Not only has it been my most valuable source of Jewish education for the last six or so years but it has been at the root of creating and strengthening some unbreakable bonds with an incredible group of friends. It's great to have Jewish friends who know instinctively what you're on about when using phrases such as "schlepping to alischvatz yoren on tiyul!!" For me, having good Jewish friends is an essential part of who I am as a Jew and my time with Habonim, especially tour (there is no experience quite like spending a month in Israel with over 20 of your closest friends), is a huge part of that.

Unfortunately, today's world is not such an easy one to live in for Jews with alarming reports of seemingly growing anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism and it is highly doubtful that chopped liver on a Friday night or a summer on machaneh is going to make a huge impact on the situation. However, sometimes it is the little things that matter and certainly for me, my version of cultural Judaism is very important and is a fundamental part of who I am.

Renewing the Jew



Is it possible to have an engaging and meaningful Judaism? In an examination of tradition and innovation, Lissa Chong climbs the tree of

life and cracks open the coconut of meaning:

If we really are Zionist-Socialists, it does not befit us to behave like dumb animals following every stupid tradition just because it calls itself modern and is not hal- lowed by age. We must determine the value of the present and of the past with our own eyes and exam- ine them from the viewpoint of our vital needs, from the view- point of progress toward our own future -- Berl Katznelson, *Tradition and Revolution*

The concept of revolution has often been conceived as completely de- destroying the old and putting some- thing entirely new in its place. Take China for instance. In Mao's words the Communist Revolution would "lead the working class and the broad masses of the people in de- feating imperialism and its running dogs." Ideally, his new world would have nothing to do with the society of the imperialist dynasties. Unfor- tunately, what he forgot was that not everything about this society was bad. Mao wanted to rid his world of the feudalism and hierarchy of an- cient China, but he forgot about the beauty of the old society such as philosophy, poetry and art. When revolutions take place, the new soci- ety cannot be completely separated from the past and tradition. Rather, it needs to take the good things and values from the old society to use as the foundations of a new stronger one.

Similarly to revolutionising society, when we revolutionise our Judaism we cannot destroy the old and try to bring in a brand new Judaism en- tirely. The idea of practicing a Juda- ism that does not have its founda- tions in Jewish tradition is ridiculous. At the moment, Habonim Dror does not have a clear definition of what our form of Judaism is. We know that we do not want to be traditional,

or orthodox or reform, but we have- n't quite worked out how we want to express our Judaism. Yet we do have a Habonim Dror tradition and we need to make sure that that tradi- tion is fulfilling our needs as modern Jews.

Hashomer Hatzair was in a similar situation to HDUK a while back. The movement knew that it wanted to have a connection with a Jewish culture but it wasn't able to express it. In many ways, they had turned their back completely on their Jew- ish past, choosing to ignore Shabbat rather than to follow the traditions. However, recently there has been a change in the movement and a few months ago another goal was added to its mission statement: "To edu- cate toward creating a person in- volved in Jewish culture and crea- tive within it". This aim does not have one specific end point, but people are able to define how they want to express their Judaism within their chosen community. One exam- ple of this is coming together on a Friday afternoon to play football as a community, then doing Kabbalat Shabbat with a light meal, before going home to celebrate Shabbat with their families. This celebration of Judaism emphasises the social aspects of Jewish culture and the importance of practicing Judaism as a community and not as an individ- ual.

The community is central to Juda- ism, and in some ways expressions of cultural Judaism place the com- munity at the centre of the religion rather than God. This does not mean that God does not exist, or is un- important to religious practice, but it does allow us to create an en- vironment for self-development and awareness within our Judaism. It allows us to question the Jewish values that we believe are important, so that we are able to put into action the things that make sense to us, making Judaism more meaningful on a personal level. Some people will find the most meaning in tradi- tional orthodoxy, while others may develop new rituals that express the study and re-evaluation of Judaism that they have done. There are no right answers, and each individual

community needs to discover what the right expression is for them. Many people currently see Habonim Dror Judaism as being solely prac- ticed on machanot and weekends. A participant on a residential event knows that they will be welcoming Shabbat with traditional brachot for wine, challah and candles, plus the odd additional bracha, and begin- ning Shabbat morning with a peulah either on the parashat hashavua, or a Jewish interpretation of the week- end's theme. It is wonderful that our chaverim are engaging in these as- pects of Judaism, but it is not enough. We need to be celebrating a Judaism that is accessible to peo- ple in their everyday lives.

Our everyday lives are already influ- enced by Judaism more than we really think about. Firstly, our mod- ern moral system is based on Judeo-Christian principles, so our underlying values are already Jew- ish. But there is more to it than that. There is no one in HDUK that would believe that values like equality or respect are bad principles to hold. Yet these principles have practices that are encouraged by Judaism, like tsedakah and tikun olam, to en- sure that they exist in our society. As good modern people, our ethics are based on Judaism. The whole idea of Ethical Socialism is also tightly wound up in Judaism. I be- lieve that I am a socialist because of the focus on community, respect, equality and responsibility that I de- rive from Judaism. In fact, both our Socialist and Zionist pillars derive from our Jewish beliefs.

Our community is on the way to dis- covering our own expression of cul- tural Judaism, and it is not a 'pick and choose' Judaism as some have chosen to describe it. It is a Juda- ism that is well thought out and con- stantly changing, depending on the needs of the members. The more we are aware of the values and prin- ciples that we want to be celebrat- ing, the more the way we choose to express them will become obvious. Berl Katznelson's words still ring true when we look at our cultural Juda- ism. We can not follow tradition just for tradition's sake, but neither can we accept that everything new is good. We need a vision of what we want our Judaism to be in the future to ensure that the Judaism we prac- tice today is on the right path.

Considering the Other

Dialogue is both necessary and possible, and there are opportunities for it all around us. Gemma Lieberman reports on her own experiences...

I gave birth to a golden camel in April last year when I started The Maimonides Foundation Student Forum at Manchester University. It started out of sheer necessity, as a general meeting of the Students Union saw Jewish and Muslim students behaving like two great big idiots walking down the avenue. I had been in contact with the Maimonides Foundation, which aims to improve the relationship between Jews and Muslims in Britain, at a Palestinian education day organised by Adele.



It was very clandestine, and all happened in secrecy from the activities of the Students Union. With hindsight it sounds strange, I realise, but the situation between J-Soc and I-Soc was and still is quite volatile. I had decided after witnessing the antagonistic behaviour of the J-Soc and I-Soc to have nothing to do with either of them, so I started to try and recruit members from the group by word of mouth. I spoke to the lecturers in my department about setting up a Jewish-Muslim Dialogue group and they were supportive. I spoke to my friends, and eventually it became clear that the interest was there for an intimate dialogue group to happen.

A week or two later about 12 Jewish and Muslim students were sitting in a room at Manchester university, playing 'bang', and introducing themselves to each other. It was surreal. The Maimonides Foundation representative came to meet us, and we all felt quite proud of ourselves for getting together in the room at all. Our aim was simple. To encounter the other, to learn about our common experiences, family, friends, hobbies, religious traditions, humour, and food, in order that one day we would feel that we had a rapport in order that we may be able to discuss some more 'serious' matters.

After the exams and the summer holidays, after the shock of the General Meeting had subsided, the group met from September onwards, every fortnight. Each week we would set a topic, or an agenda that we wanted to discuss. We would often deviate from this by the end of the meeting, and end up comparing our misconceptions of the other, usually on religious and cultural matters. We laughed a lot about some of the things that we had heard, or thought. We really did learn a lot about the other.

Towards the end of the first semester it became clear that as a group we wanted to move on and talk 'politics'. So we did. And it was very, very hard. It was very hard to listen to what was being said, without getting angry and upset, and it was very hard to say what you felt and believed for fear of angering and upsetting the other. The first week that we broached the subject it was good, perhaps as we did it in quite abstract terms. For example, the question, 'What does the flag of Israel represent to you?' One Muslim member of the group told us that he felt that Israel was 'anathema'. This is the kind of thing that is very hard to hear. But the whole point of the group was to hear this view, to try and understand it. To explain to each other why the terms and thoughts that both Jews and Muslims have about Israel are hurtful to the other, and to, (without sounding too Oprah-esque) heal that hurt.

If you are still reading, thank you. It's nearly over. Please consider if your campus at university or school could benefit from an activity like a Jewish Muslim dialogue group. If you think that it could (and I am already fairly certain that it could) then contact The Maimonides Foundation or British Friends of Peace Now, as both are good starting points and would be happy to help. I will be totally honest with you. It was hard to begin but the effort paid off. This group was amazing. It made me face up to my own prejudices. I learnt that even though I didn't want to admit to them I had plenty of them. Even though I have studied Islam as part of my degree, and intellectualised so much about it, I hadn't actually come face to face with it in the way that I did through the group. It was very intimate. We were honest about our perceptions and misconceptions of the other, and I truly believe that every member of the group is an enriched individual for the experience.



HDUK + BFPN = AOK

After the Veida voted to affiliate HDUK with British Friends of Peace Now, Daniel Beck reports on a meeting in Manchester, and the potentially fruitful future:.



Many of you were in Israel for Veida, and you will no doubt remember the resolution passed to affiliate HDUK with British Friends of Peace Now (BFPN).

The first meeting of the two great bastions of the Jew/Brit/Left was a scaled-down affair after Head of Peace Now Settlement Watch Dror Etckes was forced to fly back to Israel (as a result of a misunderstanding regarding the true meaning of the Law of Return and whether it should be extended to Palestinian refugees). Instead the meeting was headed by the Chairman of BFPN, Paul Usiskin.

The theme inevitably was dominated by the impending war on Iraq then less than 24 hours away, and never more has the title of the organisation seemed a callous misnomer (suggestions ran along the lines of Peace When and Peace How).

Shalom Achshav can't be having a very nice time at the moment. Far from its heady days of 1999 when I was in Israel witnessing real optimism and widespread support, the country now is thick with mistrust and sceptical about imminent peace. Even this new US 'Road-Map' for peace is seen by many (including much of those assembled that night) as a cynical gesture by the US to win over Arab support for the Saddam hunt by showing itself to be committed to a brokered peace, rather than a genuine cause for optimism.

The evening became an engaging forum to listen to, air opinions and enter a debate that came from all areas of the left-sided spectrum, on a broad range of topics that included:

- Settlement building and future dismantlement;
- Options regarding the Palestinians' right of return in any final status talks;
- A new Human Rights aspect to Peace Now policy;
- The impact of Gulf War II on the Israeli-Palestinian situation;
- The accuracy of comparisons often cited in the media between Iraq UN non-compliance and Israeli non-compliance;
- The big wall being built at a cost of 6bn Shekels along the green line(ish);
- The need for Jewish-Arab dialogue in the UK

to promote tolerance;

- US intentions in the area and possible outcomes.

Big issues, sure, but these are big times and we are big people with an invaluable voice on the political playing field. Too often at the moment can we hear references on the radio and in the press to the Jewish conspiracy and the Jewish hijacking of American policy making, (Five Live recently talked with authority of the infiltration of Likudniks into the Bush Administration). I fear we are being painted as a homogenous pool of Islamophobic Bushites. What better way to dispel these prejudices than to speak with a loud voice that we are Jewish people committed to a Jewish State but we can dare to criticise a government of whom we do not approve and whom we can see to be committing acts of unnecessary force against a people that are to a great extent, oppressed. If we do the criticising ourselves in a



Gemma Lieberman chats to Paul Usiskin, the head of British Friends of Peace Now.

constructive and responsible way, then surely there will be less cause for Guerinistas to fire their own cruise missiles which turn out not to be quite as accurate as we were led to believe.

So what came out of the meeting of minds? Setting up dialogue with UK Arabs seems as constructive an idea as any, and one that we could all try to implement in our region. These are early days in what could be a highly fruitful relationship, and for now it feels good just to have some more comrades in our corner.

Shalom Achshav



'Greetings from a Vatik!'
Jack Freedman



Activism to Zealousness

Stop prancing around, and just DO something, says Hannah Weisfeld:



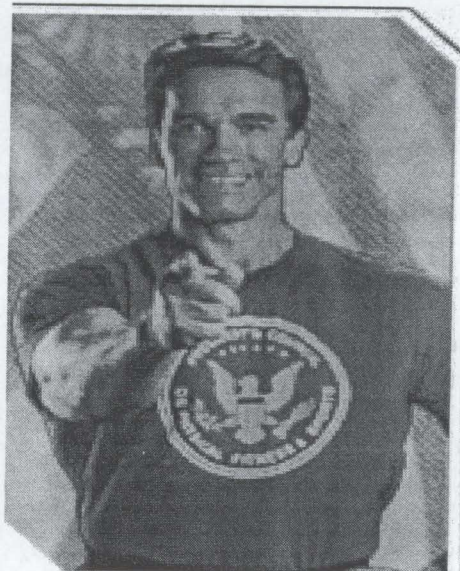
If we were to create an A-Z of words relevant to Habonim Dror, then Activism would be first on the list. So, if it not only appears on the list of words, but also comes first, then it must be important to us, Habonim Dror. In that case, it's worth an explanation and a bit of evaluation.

If someone was to ask any of us what makes our movement different from any others, its more likely than not that Socialism would spring to mind immediately. When we say we're Socialist in Habonim, we generally mean we want to make the world a better place to live in, and encourage people to take the values that they learn in Habonim to influence the world around them.

On a practical level, in a HD environment, this means a kupah system to ensure that no one is financially better off than anyone else. A good start to making the world a nicer place to live in. However this is for a few hours at a time or at the most four weeks of tour. One step up is Shnat. A whole year of a kupah system and of living communally where you are given the opportunity to develop human relationships outside of money and material possessions which so often subconsciously form the basis of relationships day-to-day. And a step up from this is a life choice to live in a communal environment based on economic equality, whether this be through traditional old style kibbutz as our Habo ancestors once chose, or through a modern interpretation of this method – Irbutz, urban communal living, as recent bogrim from the movement have chosen.

So if we want to change the way the world works in the long term, so that inequality and injustice does not exist at all, then we choose alternative lifestyle choices, such as communal living. But if we want to alleviate current problems in the mean time, then we choose Activism. It would be naïve to think that encouraging kupah to a group of chanichim

would eventually change the world (although you would hope they would eventually make a lifestyle choice to live in this environment!). Activism means being active about something which you can influence. So if there is something that you disagree with then you work on changing it. It would be hypocritical for us to call ourselves Socialists as a defining characteristic of our movement and then not to be socially active. This is why when we teach our chanichim about the Shoah on Sayarim we also encourage them to go home and be active in changing other problems in society. It is also why when we go on Shnat we work as volunteers in the community acting to change what needs improving in Israeli society,



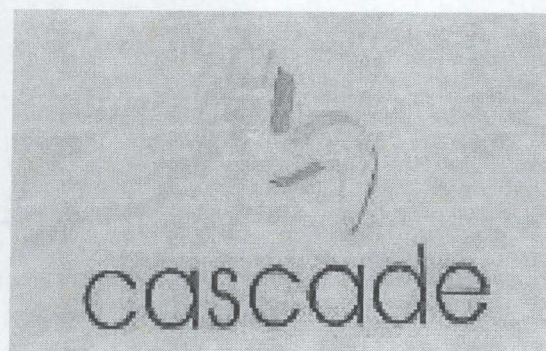
whether that be the education system, the environment, the political situation or human rights issues. And this is why when people make life choices to fulfil Habo's mission statement; they live in a communal environment in Israel and are socially active at the same time.

So where do we fit in with all of this? In a movement context we should be collectively acting on what is relevant to our movement, which is why we have been involved in dialogue, in the hope of creating a more peaceful situation for citizens in Israel, as well as spreading a message of peace, rather than hatred, to the Diaspora community. Last Christmas some of the bogrim worked at the Crisis shelter helping to give homeless people a slightly improved Christmas.

The Kliner family—Glasgow, sponsored this page

But realistically how much time do we spend in a movement context? Very little. And if our ideology is partly about using Habo values in the world around us then where does our responsibility lie the rest of the time? Most of us are in a privileged enough position to have a relatively large amount of free time while we are studying at university or for A-levels. We do not struggle to fund our studies. Which means we should be using this time for being socially active. Admittedly this could start with being socially active within our own community of Habonim Dror which cannot exist without the madrichim putting in the time and the effort. But aside from this there is much else that can be done. For people at university there is a plethora of social activism to get involved in. Every union offers opportunities to become part of societies that are seeking to make the world a better place. If there is nothing in your union which appeals to you then start your own society. If you have a bee in your bonnet about something then change it. Muslim/Jewish relations are a good place to start. If you delve a bit into student politics you'll find a mess of complicated and nasty relations between Muslims and Jews, UJS and many of the anti-Israel left wing groups on campuses. Work on trying to improve them. There is no one more qualified than you as a boger of Habonim Dror to be doing this. It is you, over other members of the Jewish community that has been educated time and time again on the importance of dialogue, so use that education where it matters. Change the binary nature of student politics so students can begin working with each other to create a better life for Israelis and Palestinians rather than constantly working against each other. There are organisations and people that are willing to help you do it. Or if student politics doesn't appeal to you or if you're not at university then what about the mass of organisations that are constantly looking for volunteers to run their services, such as Crisis and other homeless charities, or charities working with disabled adults and children. Its not difficult to find out about them, use the volunteer bureaux in your student unions and local councils, or the look on the Internet. It couldn't more accessible.

Next time someone asks any of us what make us different from other movements it would be a reflection of the success of the 'Socialism' that we preach, if every person could respond with that word, safe in the knowledge that they acted on it!



The Abrahams Family
wish you every success

CASCADE ELECTROLITE Ltd
Gorse Mill, Gorse Street, Oldham OL9 9RJ
England Tel: 0161 628 6622 Fax: 0161
628 2831
email: mail@cascade-electrolite.com

ISO9002
REGISTERED COMPANY

All strength to Koleinu and Habonim Dror
Sue and Tony Leifer

Hannah'sWorld

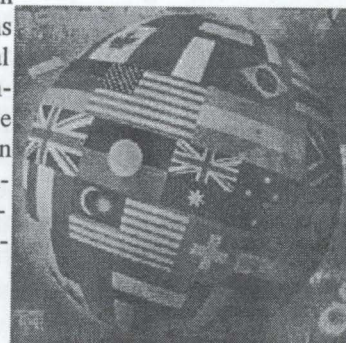


Globalisation is a complex term, with a subjective definition, argues Hannah Swerling...

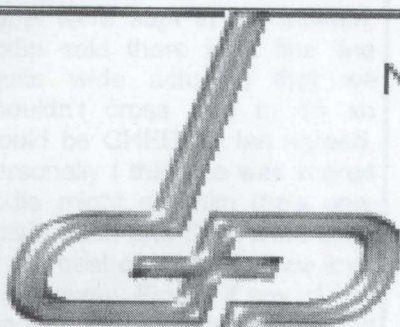
In the midst of my rigorous investigation of Globalisation, I turned to Google, that friendly and universally recognisable search engine, for support...oh the irony! I eagerly awaited a concise and simple definition, preferably no longer than a couple of paragraphs, only to find an eternity of relevant pages. Having regained my composure, I calmly began to negotiate the information that sat before me on my **Intel Pentium Processor**. The opening paragraph read, "One can be sure that virtually every one of the 2822 academic papers on globalisation written in 1998 included its own definition, as would each of the 589 new books on the subject published that year." Oh. Despite this less than co-operative introduction, I set to work, and having read all 2822 academic papers and all 589 books, I would now consider myself well versed on the subject. The next stage was to condense the oodles of knowledge I had gained over that day, and present to you, the reader, a concise definition of globalisation from a sort of lefty perspective. Here's what I came up with....Lefty organisations see globalisation as the spread of Capitalism in which the labour of the poor is exploited for the benefit of the rich. I know. I am indeed, profound. This led me nicely to the 'Leftist Parties of the World' website, in which a man called Jay offered a friendly link into some sort of diatribe about Progressive Leftism. In spite of Jay's kind offer of effusive Left-wing sentiment, this was the point at which I would disregard the external aid of the internet, and lead by example by offering my own attempts at original thought on this matter.

I am very aware that as someone immersed in a Capitalist culture, it would be hypocritical to preach about the 'evils of Capitalism'. This was not really my aim anyway. It is important to acknowledge the positive influences globalisation has on international trade and economic, political and socio-cultural relations. However, I found myself more preoccupied with the moral implications it has from my position within a youth culture. Whilst the Nike website (come on...just a bit more internet backup) claims that its mission is "To improve the workplace, worker's lives and the community", I remain unconvinced that the company complies with such manufacturing practices. 19 cents an hour ain't gonna improve a worker's life as far as I know. The fact is that corporations such as Nike do represent the more evil aspects of globalisation. As an international movement, we benefit from our status abroad and experience first hand the comfort provided by the knowledge that we can visit a number of different countries in the knowledge that not far away, there's a friendly Haboite who will greet us with open arms and a nice, steaming cup of Fair Trade coffee. I think that our mission is to continue to advocate our socialist/ethically socialist/socially ethnicalist...whatever...values, and to maintain awareness about the less encouraging elements of globalisation

© Hannah Swerling. All rights reserved.



MAXIMISE POTENTIAL THROUGH
PARTNERSHIP



*Wishing you every
success*

DP Pharma Ltd.

15 Carnarvon Street, Manchester M3 1HJ, United Kingdom

t: +44 (0)161 832 3330 f: +44 (0)161 832 3620

e: sales@dppharma.co.uk

Soapbox Rant



Voting is the most important thing that we have the privilege to be able to do. In the following rant, Anthony Steen tells us why...

After the Holocaust one might have thought that the Western World would see sense and knock right wing fascists out of the equation. Post-war, right wing parties were very much the minority in Europe, after everyone had seen the extreme consequences. Now however all we have to do is look around the world and see that right wing parties are beginning to have a larger impact, and with their power increasing all the time something must be done to stop this.

I will start with our beloved Britain. The British National Party are none other than neo-Nazis whom, if they had a chance, would eradicate all the Jews, Muslims and get rid of the people looking to start a new life, or their generic term of 'asylum seekers'. Now that the main Opposition in Burnley is the BNP there is a strong chance that when the next general election comes around, this party could have a chance of getting a seat in the Houses of Parliament. This disaster could be the start of a major change in British politics.

The Labour party had to shift their policies rightwards in order to get into the House, and although they are hardly extreme, I found that their stance on the war in Iraq left many of the country unrepresented. I know that many people wanted the war in Iraq and looking at it, I feel that it was conducted in a way that it should have been. But there were still 2000 civilian casualties. This I will come back to. The reason I did not agree with Labour was that Tony Blair did not have the guts to face the opposition, which is appalling since this is his duty as the PM. On the anti-war protest march he would not allow us to have a PA system for the speeches. This is supposed to be a democracy where we can have freedom of speech, yet only when it suits the Government.

The Americans and Bush in particular has been my main problem with the war on Iraq. The sheer hypocrisy of the war was more than I could handle. "You will not have nuclear weapons"; yes Mr Bush but you do, Britain does and so does Israel and you would use them, and have done before! Blair is more reserved and these 'friendly' weapons of mass destruction that we have are safe in his hands, but Bush and Sharon are another story. Both are right wing and are quite frankly nutters. If either could get away with it then I'm sure they would drop these bombs instantaneously.

The media have also been unfair and the propaganda coming from the BBC and CNN is unbelievable, we see pictures of Saddam being destroyed, but do we see the pictures of people killed at the border because they did not slow down quickly enough? We do not see the woman running after a tank because the Americans have killed seven of her family, NO we don't. Most of the country are happy, but America's heavy-handedness has a lot to be answered for. Lastly the media told us that the Americans had killed their 'number six card two weeks ago', but wait - now he is alive and spilling the goods. The Americans are lying through the press, which many people trust, and this is the lowest of the low.

Let's go to Denmark where during the Second World War their king famously wore the Magen David on his arm. Now what are this country controlled by? A right wing party who have stopped all people coming into the country, and kicked out the ones that they do not want because "they are stealing our jobs". In France, the fascist leader Le Penn attained 20% of the vote when he stood for President, meaning that every one in five French people you meet wants you dead. People say that this is because of low voter turnout, but if you do not vote you have to face the consequences. Austria were on the verge of having a right wing government who was the closest to Hitler that has nearly been elected since WW2 and the right wing support in Holland is on the up, after the popular hard-line, anti-immigrationist Pim Fortuyn was assassinated a few years ago..

Lastly our beloved Israel. Sharon is a terrorist and I do not use the word lightly. He may conduct his terror more tactfully, but he creates more death than most especially with his stance on the settlements. Let us not forget that he has killed more people than were killed on 9/11, albeit over a longer period of time. His non-negotiable stance means that any sort of progression is remaining static, even though the Palestinians seem like they want to restart a peace process. There will always be sides of the Jews and Palestinians that will never agree, suicide bombers and Yigal Amir being examples, but we have to keep going and not stop at every hurdle. The fact of the matter is that Sharon sees there being peace when the other side is dead and this is a very negative attitude to take.

To return to my original point, everyone has a vote, and the message is use it. Make sure that the world does not go any further in the wrong direction. Go out in the wind and the rain and voice your opinions. Talk about politics because in the end of the day it rules the world. Do not let the right get the upper hand, because if they do we will know about it very quickly.

Designer Socialism?

Is Socialism a dirty word? Can it still be fashionable and relevant? What are we anyway?

Caroline Beck whips out her sickle...

Unless you have had your head in the sand recently, I do not need to state how prevalent, if not trendy, Socialist politics are at the moment, and there is nothing that registers a more telling political demographic than war.

The British Left has been the driving force behind the anti-war Movement. From the Old Labour unions and the Socialist Workers' Party to the Neo-Marxists on university campuses, everyone is singing the same tune: It's good to be a Socialist; Socialists are good people.

A defining feature, however, of this new Socialist sympathising is how united it has been with Muslim and Arab Movement politics. This synergy could in part be attributed to the fact that Islamic regimes have a history of Socialist roots or pretensions. Nasser's regime in Egypt, and, of course, the Ba'ath Party in Iraq are poignant examples. So, under the anti-war banners, Marxists marched with the Ummah, and called for an end to intervention in Iraq.

But, as many of us cited as a reason for our reticence to join in, there is a distinctly disingenuous air to this all-embracing bandwagon. What are the specific views of all these different groups who march against war? Some are genuine pacifists, some are for the rule of International Law. But some are very much more pro-war than it seems, just not pro this war. Or not pro the West winning.

How much common ground do we have with the extremist anti-west protestors, Islamic or otherwise? We all know that the information they use to fuel their fervour is at best questionable. In some cases we could be marching alongside groups whose views go against what we, as Socialists, say we believe in. Freedom of choice, gender equality, international diplomacy and the non-violent resolution of conflicts are to name but a few. There is also the problem that in declaring whole-hearted unity with these factions, either collectively or individually, we somehow cut ourselves out of the deal. In a worst case scenario, standing with the Neo-Marxists would mean our National Jewish Identity was problematic, to stand with the Arabs we would have to swallow challenges to Israeli statehood, and if we were to stand with the Muslims we would be wary of our Judaism.

Of course, these are extreme examples, and to generalise across a population would be inaccurate and paranoid. But these are views that were represented in what was a supposedly Socialist campaign. Somehow, it seems, Left has met Right, when Old Labour and Western Liberalism combines with Islamism and Arab Nationalism.

In what is a deliciously ironic example of Dugma Ishit, (that is, if you consider Tony Blair to be a leader), the British people are following their Government's example. For never has an ostensibly left of Centre party looked so much like a well-spun tale of Conservative policy.

The contradiction seems too great to ignore, but where does that leave the HD activist? It is no doubt better to march and not let anybody stop you, if that is what you want to do, but this controversy can only be put aside if we ourselves know what we stand for, and how we characterise our Socialism. At least then we can choose with confidence if and where to draw the line.

In fact, that is what we did.....

Most of you remember that on Veida in the Winter, we passed a resolution that said we should hold a weekend to discuss the nature of our Socialism, and whether we should call it Ethical Socialism, to distinguish us from old-school Marxist scientific Socialists, or something.



We had a great time, kicked off with six simultaneous games of Monopoly, (I told you Left had met Right!) and punctuated by an Israeli coalition-building simulation game - claws out, arrgh! At half-time Silvio, our World Mazkir, came to give us a pep talk and some spotty tips. His message - "We are Socialists, now let's go to Israel!" Commentating was Mike Tyldesley, a world expert on Socialist Communes and Youth Movements and Black mu-

sic.

After persistent questioning, we understood that it is not what we call ourselves that counts, but what we stand for. And this, Chaverot ve Chaverim, is what we came up with:

Habonim Dror UK believes that society should be established upon the principles of equality, respect and social and economic responsibility.

Society should not be run according to material worth and human relationships should not consist of exploitation.

HDUK aspires to an intimate, communal lifestyle founded upon the values in which we believe. This lifestyle will:
-serve as a dugma to society of how to live a fulfilling lifestyle informed by choice and not dictated by the status quo;
-seek to impact upon the surrounding society through social activism;
-work towards fulfilment as both an individual and a group.

As a socialist youth movement, HDUK seeks to empower our chaverim to be socially active in their community, and to inculcate our values through:

- Kupah on all our events, to create an atmosphere of equality;
- Machanot, weekends and events, to teach the values and how to enact them;
- Shnat Hachshara in Israel, to allow chaverim to practice the ideology first hand for a year;
- Working with charities in all our events throughout the year in order to be proactive in the community.

Like Father Like Son

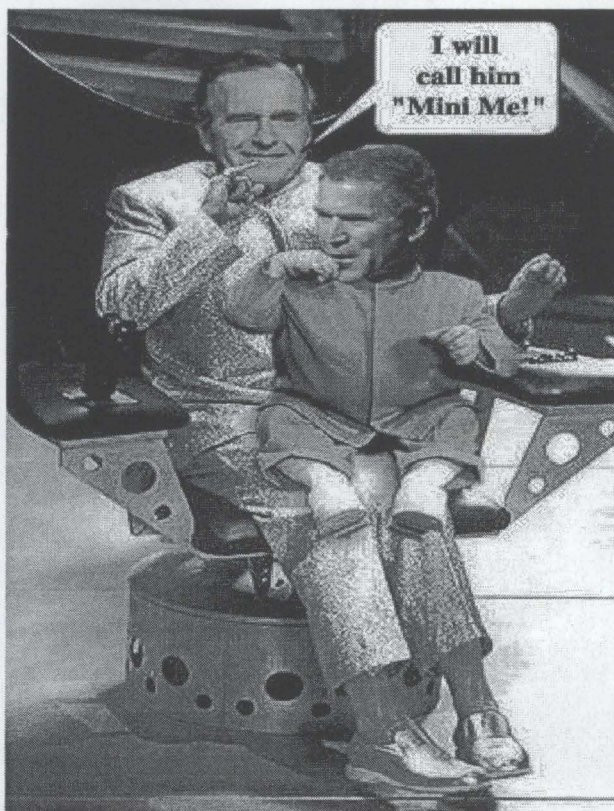
Ian Caplan beats around the Bush:

Midway through his first term in office as president of the USA, a steely-eyed

Republican from Texas, surrounded by hawkish advisers such as Dick Cheney and Donald Rumsfeld led a coalition of states in a war in the Persian Gulf intended to remove Saddam Hussein. Sounds familiar? Well, that's actually referring to George H W Bush (daddy-Bush) and the mission that time was just to remove Saddam from Kuwait, the coalition was almost universal and was operating under the instruction of the United Nations. In fact, such was the degree of cooperation between states (unlike anything else in the UN's 40 year existence) that Bush proclaimed it to be the birth of "a new world order" where, free from the shackles of the Cold War, the UN could take the lead in promoting a better, more civilised, cooperative and peaceful era. Of course, the actual reality of the 1990s showed Bush's vision to be somewhat optimistic, but ironically it may have been left to Bush jnr, good old Dubbya, to hammer the final nails into the UN coffin, and with it bury his dad's dreams of a "new world order".

Just to clarify, I don't think Dubbya is a moron, an idiot, an oil-hungry despot or any of the other rather petty slurs that the Guardian like to print. He's surrounded himself with intelligent advisors, and listened carefully to what they've had to say. Nor is he some sort of evil lunatic out to conquer the world – I honestly believe that his agenda is based on his interpretation of America's need to defend her own security in the post-9/11 "new world disorder". There is however one minor problem – I think he's got it wrong!

I believe he is absolutely right to be concerned about the proliferation of WMD, but as a consequence of his administration's arrogant "we'll do this with or without you" rhetoric he has abandoned his best tool to deal with it – the United Nations. In this age of virulent (and mostly unjustified) anti-Americanism, Dubbya could have done with taken a lesson from his daddy – Bush snr certainly didn't need a coalition to get Saddam out of Iraq, but he wanted one to legitimise his actions. Legitimation is the one thing that Dubbya really needed and he is partly responsible for failing to get it. Equally responsible of course would be Chirac – the behaviour of the French President has been absolutely disgusting throughout; advocating continued sanctions and inspections despite his country doing more to undermine the sanctions regime than any other and claiming to oppose the



war on humanitarian grounds whilst at the same time shaking the hands of Robert Mugabe (possibly the most blood-stained of any hands outside Baghdad). Between the French and the US they have successfully taken all real power and significance away from the UN and replaced it with an America determined that it's security will best be protected by the unrestrained use of its awesome military muscle, on its own if needs be.

As for what will happen next? Well maybe Blair will continue his impressive efforts by pulling the US back towards some sort of reconciliation with "old Europe". Or maybe the future does lie in regime change – the old fashioned, democratic way. Bush snr's popularity ratings were much higher after Gulf War I than his son's are now and he still lost the election two years later because of the weakness of the US economy (which is once again looking pretty dodgy). So who knows, maybe it could be like father like son!

berrys

garden
company



The British
Association of
Landscape
Industries

May HDUK
bloom & grow!

landscaping
design
patios
planting
drives

020 8209 0194

maintenance
turfing
watering systems
fencing
lighting

The Great Iraq Email

Debate of February '02

At the beginning of 2002 the issue of whether to wage war on Iraq polarised the world. Some HDUK bogrim fought out the matter via email. Here are some selected quotes from the tussle:

'I for one also find myself in the rare predicament of trusting Tony Blair.'

'Amazingly Turkey which has one of the worst human rights records in the world is our friend because we can put our military bases there, and the president of Syria can have tea at No.10, because they've got a wonderful human rights record. Don't for one minute think that this war is being fought on humanitarian grounds.'

'I know it sounds completely illogical but I do think it is possible to reconcile being a lefty with being pro-war. Just because that doesn't match up with the state of the British left is because its full of shit in my opinion. There seems to be a great determination to be anti-something and right now anti-Americanism is the height of fashion... But what was the Antiwar March 'pro'? Despite the best intentions of the majority that were there the benefits went not to the people of Iraq but to Saddam.'

'There are a lot of countries like Iraq which will see a grave warning in the non-toleration (after 12 years for gods sake) of Iraq. This is a good thing, and will make many of them think twice about supporting terrorism, maybe even against Israel and the evil Zionists.'

'All things considered (and I mean ALL), we (the evil, hegemonic West) have a responsibility to maintain some sort of rule of law in the world'

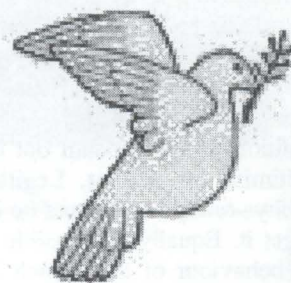
'When the war is driven by greed, and backed by false evidence, I can't help thinking that the wool is being pulled over our collective eyes. That's why I had to demand that it was Not In My Name; that's why I call for us to Make Love Not War.'

'I realise the potential repercussions for Israel, terrorism in Britain or even WW3 but then if there is evil in the world it is up to the good guys to get rid of it by any means necessary.'

'To me, war would be a positive action not only against Saddam but also Mugabe and other apartheid dictators and it is possible that war, only with the backing of the UN, seems more and more like the only solution.'

'We CANNOT and MUST NOT support anything just because we think it will be in the interest of Israel, we have to think about the implications for humanity as a whole, otherwise why bother calling ourselves Socialists.'

War



'Foreign policy is not imperialism, promoting our interests is not evil, the West is not a swear-word. I happen to quite like our values, and taken properly, they should encourage toleration and acceptance, not evil corporations and cultural "homogenization".'

'The overwhelming feeling at the Anti-war March was 'We don't like what's going on; it's all too fast and we don't want to be a part of it'. Maybe this was caused by a feeling of reluctance and insecurity about the changing world, a fear that our previously unassailable Western comfort is disintegrating, perhaps shortly to be gone for ever.'

'War is shit, but then so are dictators who flout international law and threaten their neighbours with wmd. bush ain't gr8, but don't buy the propaganda - he's not the evil one.'

'All of the Israel stuff has made me so suspicious of rolling out the ethics arguments when people are holding guns.'



Peace

Tune in to www.habodror.org.uk for more meaty discussions on our message board.

'I get the feeling that fearing that we were all being hoodwinked by those in power in the west, feeling we were being manipulated into going to war for a covert agenda, we all jumped into another far worse hoodwinking... I hate all those smug white skinned university students with their kafirs on to express 'solidarity' with a Palestinian cause that they cannot hope to understand from their Guardian subscription. The Middle East cannot be simplified into a f**king fashion statement.'

'France in particular is far more motivated by their oil interests in Iraq (Saddam owes them millions) than they are about the ethics of killing civilians so I don't buy Chirac's humanitarian bullshit... In contrast I give Blair full respect for putting his political survival on the line to pursue a policy he believes is right.'

'Don't use the attack on Iran to justify bombing Saddam because it is proof that he is an aggressive dictator. America advocated that attack, it was in the benefits of the cold war, and they didn't intervene on humanitarian grounds then.'

'We must remember that Saddam Hussein is an evil dictator, who has invaded Kuwait, started wars with his neighbours, fired Scud missiles on Israel and used chemical weapons against his own people.'

'Will an American-imposed regime really help the people of Iraq or will it just be another dictator in the long run, like Saddam who was an American invention, and the Taliban who was also an American invention? And who will reap the benefits of this war? I'm sorry to say that I think it will be the West. The carve up of the oil has already begun. Look at who was imposed in Afghanistan, amazingly the man now in power was the same man who sat on the board of directors of UNICOL, a company looking to put an oil pipeline through Afghanistan, which the Taliban would not allow.'

Vatik'ei City

Everyone's talking about the Irgun Vatik'ei Habonim. But what is it? And why? For who? And when? Ben Bardan puts our minds at rest...

Irgun Vatik'ei Habonim (IVH) is an organisation of former members of British Habonim, which was founded in the early 1990's. IVH was established at the initiative of the late Avraham (Ginger) Greenspan and a number of close chaverim. The organisation is based in Israel, where most of the active members reside, but membership is worldwide with a strong and active branch in the UK. IVH-Israel produces a well-received magazine "Kol Vatik'ei Habonim" which is edited by Yoel Varod and comes out on a biannual basis. Since 2001, the British branch of IVH has held two successful national reunions, as well as a number of regional activities, and a third national reunion is planned for May 2003 to take place in Hathersage, Derbyshire.

The idea of establishing IVH arose out of the common bond which is felt between all ex-members of Habonim and the tremendous sense of debt we feel to the movement, which not only played an important part in our youth but has had a profound influence on us throughout our lives. All of us who were active in the movement during its heyday grew up with a common sense of values which include identification with Jewish history and culture, support for the State of Israel, socialism and equality (but not unquestioning support of any particular party), tolerance for other opinions, openness to different degrees of religious practice, aversion to social-snobbism and - most important of all - a good sense of humour.

The activities of the British based IVH include discussions on the current situation in Israel (a subject on which we hold widely differing views), oneigil shabat, tiyulim, and (it has to be admitted) a load of nostalgia, such as gawking at old camp photos and singing some old movement songs in Hebrew and English.

One subject which we continue to agonise over is how to be of assistance to the present-day Habonim-Dror. We recognise that the youth organisation of today operates into totally different circumstances to the movement we knew and loved. Vast changes have taken place in the Anglo-Jewish social milieu, in the outlook of young people, in the international environment and in the politics and mores of the State of Israel - not least in the demise of the kibbutz as we knew it. At the same time, we are saddened at the poor state of present-day Habonim-Dror, especially the miniscule numbers in the London area. We would like to help in any way we can (except for fund-raising!) but wonder how best to contribute. Does anyone have any suggestions?

We would welcome correspondence from past or present day members of Habonim-Dror. Chaverim up North may contact Dr. Jenny Green in Leeds (Tel: 0113-2680825. E-Mail: mike_jen_green@btopenworld.com) while chaverim in London and the South could contact either Irmis Singer (0208-4469925 E-Mail: ivhsinger@btopenworld.com) or Nick Collins (Tel: 0208-8838562 E-Mail: healing@dircon.co.uk)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Name: Ruth Winston-Fox
Profession: Social Worker (retired)
Where: Southgate, London

Ken: I was involved in Hammersmith in 1929 when Habonim was first founded. My

brother was involved in the East End, and then the two combined.

Best Habonim Moment: Running the first Habonim Camp in Ramsgate, in my grand-

mother's garden! There were 20 children in the first year, 50 children the year after.

We went for long walks and educated on Jewish knowledge. The JLB (now the JLG),

The Jewish Lads' and Girls' Brigade) helped us with the equipment.

What do you feel Habonim gave you: A strong interest in Jewish knowledge and events.

Name: Jenny Lass, nee Pearl
Profession: Nurse and mother of six, married to an Israeli Doctor
Age: 46
Where: Golders Green, London

What did you do in Habo?

Summer and winter camps on the

David Eder Farm, from age 10-16

Madritch: David Swersky

Still in contact with: Michelle

Abrahams

Ken: Finchley Road

Best Habonim Moment: Lag

B'Omer outside the Ken, sports in the gym.

What do you feel Habonim gave

you: Israel inspiration! Went to

Israel as soon as I could for periods

of time on kibbutzim, and then

made aliya in 1982 to Hadassah in

Jerusalem, and learned to be a

nurse. Met husband within 5 weeks,

married within a few months and in

'95 came back to the UK.

Name: Maurice Hyman
Profession: Designer
Where: Prestwich

Ken: We used to meet on Bury Old Road.

Best Habonim Moment: Being on top of a

20-man human pyramid - as a result I was

nicknamed Atlas for twenty years.

What was it like to be in Habonim: It was

a culture in itself. Defined itself as different

from the community. At times, I must admit,

we were intellectual snobs.



What do you feel Habonim gave you: There

was a negative side - the inculcation of self-

righteousness and judgement over everything

and everybody, and an intolerance towards each

other. We had very high standards, and were

intolerant towards people who didn't show ideo-

logical certainty. But that was the down-side to-

wards being in a very inspiring and stimulating

environment. All in all Habonim gave me every-

thing: my general outlook on life, my basic values.

the shelves!

seminar I ran to the book shop to find Buber on

cussed the ideas all night, and then after the

Buber in an incredibly inspiring session. We dis-

seminar I was introduced to the ideas of Martin

very important, formative experience. On one

never had since. It was a bit artificial, but it was a

bates, with an intensity of discussion that I've

they set me up for life. I remember all-night de-

tional seminars were extremely important to me,

Best Habonim Moment: The different educa-

second year. I made Aliyah in 1975.

first year, and the Rosh Chinuch in London for the

Habonim career path: I did movement work for

two years, as the Glasgow Fieldworker for the

Ken: North West Ken.

start university.

Kibbutz, 1969-70, and then had to go back to

a different time, so I spent several months on

Shnat Hachshara in Israel, but I finished school at

Year of Shnat: My shlichva was the first to do

Where do you live: Baka, Jerusalem.

I work with madichim, Jewish students, teachers.

in Israel, in different institutions, such as Machon.

Profession: Jewish Educator. I educate Jewishly

Name: Steve Israel

Thousands of people have passed through the spiritual

thoroughfare of Habonim Dror over the years, and each

have taken something with them, from a towelling robe to

a set of headed notepaper. Here are just a few stories:



HABONIM DROR

...for dummies

Age	School Year	Shichva	Summer Machaneh
8-9	4	Amelim 1 (Workers)	
9-10	5	Amelim 2 (Workers)	Efrochim
10-11	6	Amelim 3 (Workers)	Efrochim
11-12	7	Ratzim (Runners)	Ofarim
12-13	8	Chotrim (Rowers)	Nemerim
13-14	9	Chalutzim (Pioneers)	Rishonim
14-15	10	Bonim (Builders)	Sayarim
15-16	11	Shomrim (Guards)	Israel Camp
16-17	12	Lomdim (Learners)	Gibush
17-18	13	Muchanim (Prepared)	Madrich
18-19	Gap Year	Shnatties (Erm.. On Shnat)	Madrich
19-20	1 st Yr Snr	Barvazim (Ducks)	Bogrim
20-21	2 nd Yr Snr	Avazim (Geese)	Boger/ Rosh / Organiser
21-22	3 rd Yr Snr	Barburim (Swans)	Boger / Rosh / Organiser
22-23		Mvmt Wrks/ Dinozaurim	Boger / Rosh / Organiser

After a motion on Veida, several shichva names have been changed, eg. Junior Chotrim to Ratzim, Konenim to Shomrim.

Note that the yr 9 camp is called 'Rishonim' rather than 'France Camp' especially as it is not in France. Ofarim is not in Wales, and never has been.

On Sababa, each shichva will decide a permanent name for their shichva, which will always be their name, so that when you meet old Habo mates in 50 years, you can say 'I was in Shichva Etz (tree)', if that is your poison.

BUZZWORDS: Everyone's talking about...

Hagshama - self-realisation

Empowerment - change the channel yourself you lazy arse



Reciprocal Learning - you learn from the kids, they learn from you, get it?

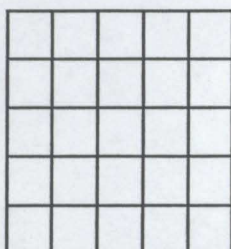
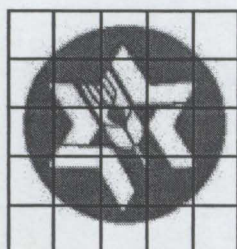
Chalutz and Kdam Chalutz - pioneer and pre-pioneer. Well, we say everything else in Hebrew

Tsiud = Materials, Equipment, props. 'Kishut' it turns out, just means 'decoration'.



CRUCIALLY IMPORTANT: The word 'chanichim' will no longer be used. It implies superiority and hierarchy. Instead chaverim will be referred to as 'chaverim' or by their shichva. Eg. On a peula sheet might be written the following: 'Aim: To teach the Chotrim the importance of the Lung'.

DRAW YOUR OWN SEMEL!



HOT



NOT



Meet the Movement Monsters

The Mazkirut lead a gruesome double-life. Didn't you know? Watch out, because they might get you... They might be hiding under your bed waiting for you to go to sleep so that they can..... RUN A PEULA! Or they might be hiding in your cupboard so that they can..... ORGANISE A WEEKEND SEMINAR! Oooh, it gives me the creeps...

Witchong



Strength:	45
Speed:	75
Rage:	60
Charm:	94
Cunning:	100
Killing Power:	15
Special Gift:	Can turn you into a movement gimp

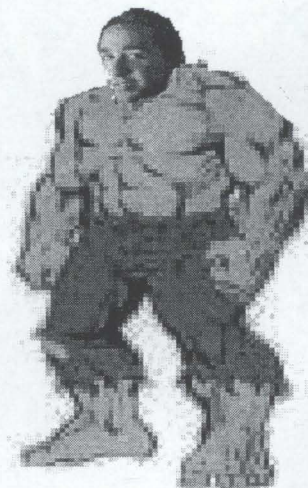
The Greg Reaper

Strength:	12
Speed:	23
Rage:	0
Charm:	85
Cunning:	90
Killing Power:	100
Special Gift:	Can cause immediate hagshama

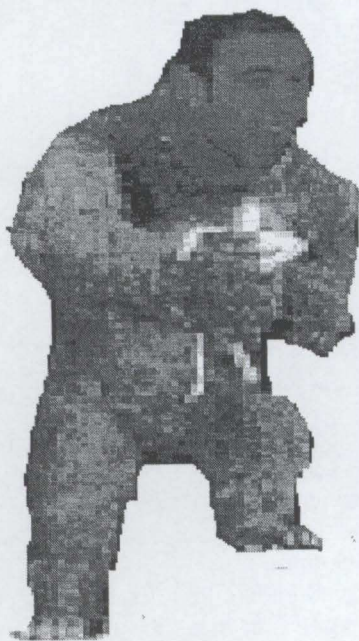


The Indaveable Hulk

Strength:	99
Speed:	75
Rage:	100
Charm:	0
Cunning:	23
Killing Power:	80
Special Gift:	Can be a presence in the community



DAN KONG



Strength:	90
Speed:	60
Rage:	95
Charm:	75
Cunning:	10
Killing Power:	90
Special Gift:	Can pick up

Count Shaliachula

Strength:	12
Speed:	99
Rage:	10
Charm:	100
Cunning:	85
Killing Power:	75
Special Gift:	Can make good matzah



Temporary Poem of My Time Yehuda Amichai

Hebrew writing and Arabic writing go from east to west,
 Latin writing, from west to east.
 Languages are like cats:
 You must not stroke their hair the wrong way.
 The clouds come from the sea, the hot wind from the
 desert,
 The trees bend in the wind,
 And stones fly from all four winds,
 Into all four winds. They throw stones,
 Throw this land, one at the other,
 But the land always falls back to the land.
 They throw the land, want to get rid of it.
 Its stones, its soil, but you can't get rid of it.
 They throw stones, throw stones at me
 In 1936, 1938, 1948, 1988,
 Semites throw at Semites and anti-Semites at anti-
 Semites,
 Evil men throw and just men throw,
 Sinners throw and tempters throw,
 Geologists throw and theologians throw,
 Archaeologists throw and archhooligans throw,
 Kidneys throw stones and gall bladders throw,
 Head stones and forehead stones and the heart of a
 stone,
 Stones shaped like a screaming mouth
 And stones fitting your eyes
 Like a pair of glasses,
 The past throws stones at the future,
 And all of them fall on the present.
 Weeping stones and laughing gravel stones,
 Even God in the Bible threw stones,
 Even the Urim and Tumim were thrown
 And got stuck in the breastplate of justice,
 And Herod threw stones and what came out was a
 Temple.

Oh, the poem of stone sadness
 Oh, the poem thrown on the stones
 Oh, the poem of thrown stones.
 Is there in this land
 A stone that was never thrown
 And never built and never overturned
 And never uncovered and never discovered
 And never screamed from a wall and never discarded by
 the builders
 And never closed on top of a grave and never lay under
 lovers
 And never turned into a cornerstone?

Please do not throw any more stones,
 You are moving the land,
 The holy, whole, open land,
 You are moving it to the sea
 And the sea doesn't want it
 The sea says, not in me.

Please throw little stones,
 Throw snail fossils, throw gravel,
 Justice or injustice from the quarries of Migdal Tsedek,
 Throw soft stones, throw sweet clods,
 Throw limestone, throw clay,
 Throw sand of the seashore,
 Throw dust of the desert, throw rust,
 Throw soil, throw wind,
 Throw air, throw nothing
 Until your hands are weary
 And the war is weary
 And even peace will be weary and will be.

*Translated from the Hebrew by Barbara and Benjamin
 Harshav*

The Quick guide to... **THE**



Supporting Israel for Life

- The JNF was founded in December 1901 at the 5th Zionist congress in Basle, Switzerland. This makes it the worlds oldest environmental Charity
- Since its inception, the JNF has planted more than 200 million trees in Israel, continuing to plant over 3 million a year.
- The first task of the JNF was to purchase land in what was then Palestine. By the time the State was established in 1948, the JNF owned around 20 % of land in the new country.
- In it's first Century, the JNF's priority was "Country-building". This included reclaiming over 200,000 acres of previously infertile land for agricultural use, building over 6000 miles of roads and building hundreds of parks throughout the country.
- The JNF has played an active role in all the major *Aliyot* (Immigrations) to Israel, providing the infrastructure, land and housing for millions of new immigrants. The JNF provides around 3,500 new immigrants with employment each year.
- As it enters its second Century, the JNF is still striving to make Israel a better place for all its inhabitants. One of the main environmental focuses is now Water, with the JNF having built over 100 reservoirs in the last ten years to try to combat the country's water shortage.
- The JNF in the UK is one of the most active offices in the world. As well as continuing with its ecological projects, JNF UK also supports many causes that will benefit the people in Israel. These include supporting Soup Kitchens in Netanya, Special Needs homes in Afula and Ra'nana and Victim support projects throughout the country. These were some of the projects that Habonim volunteers helped the JNF raise money for on Green Sunday, the annual National Appeal, that took place in January 2003.

Supporting Israel for life- then, now, always

For more information on the history or work of the JNF, contact David at JNF Education on 020 8421 7603, email david@jnf.co.uk or surf onto www.jnf.co.uk

Talking Tachlus.....



Just like Mr. Burrell, we've been stealing priceless gems [of gossip] over the past few months. First and foremost, the worrying fashion of paedophilia within the movement and for once it's girls who are most guilty. Senior leaders have been attempting to exploit the talent of the younger years with and without success- We're not sure what you've heard but its something to do with Georgia Peters, Amy Weisberg, Debbie Tussie, Josh Gould and Kyle Bentwood. (*insert gasp*)

'Twas a dark, cloudy night on Efrochim this summer, when Miss. Abramson (not specifying which one) and Mr. Jackson (not specifying which brother)* were in 'deep conversation' with one another debating the "two-meat-and-veg-theorum", under duvet covers, somehow deprived of any clothes above their midribs. It was late, 5 in the morning to be precise.. yet out of nowhere appeared a sweet, young, innocent brown fluff of a ten-year old (need an image in your mind?... Rod and Todd).. despite attempts to assure the frightened toddler that Miss. Abramson was "upset" and that Mr. Jackson was "comforting her" he simply ran away... and rallied all of his friends to witness the spectacle. MADRICHIM TAKE NOTE – DON'T GET JIGGY IN AN UNLOCKED PEULAH ROOM – YOU KNOW THAT'S WHERE THEY PLAY CONTINUATIONS.



And then on dark, sordid New Year's Eve 2002/3, sixty (count 'em) Habo Brits (circumcised) graced the Kibbutz Ashdot Ya'akov Ichud night club in the North of Israel, taking time-out from Veida to copulate like rutting rhinos. Picture it:

Int. Night. Flashing lights. Thumping Trance Music. Free Drinks.

Whirling drunken Brits enmeshed with whooping Kibbutzniks.

Amidst the clatter we hear snatches of hideous conversation:

I. CAPLAN: MmmmmmikKI..

G. EDLIN: Ooohh, give us a good bozzing!

A. KLINER: I'm courting winter..

J. BEALE: Kop a load of this!

A. SEGAL: Have you ever tried nobby clay-modelling?

M. CONWAY: It's a difficult decision to make – car or men..

M. SINGER: Shalom, Ma'inyanim? Gobble gobble.

J. TOBIAS: Anyone for tennis?



Bloody hell chaverim, there has been more tongue in the movement over the past few months than in a BSE incinerator.

But we guess you'll have to wait for Summer machanot '03 for that extra frisson of excitement! ...be vigilant....



*The authors of this article (who shall remain anonymous) accept no responsibility for any embarrassment caused to their subjects. Under special Habonim Dror UK laws, they are exempt from criticism, not only about their morals, but also their literary skills.

*63% factual content.

How can I support Israel?



How can I give my children a Jewish future in the UK?



Two Big Questions. One Answer:



**The United Jewish Israel Appeal is proud to
support Habonim Dror and wishes you
every success in the coming year**

The United Jewish Israel Appeal is the leading supporter of Israel and young people in the UK.
UJIA, Balfour House, 741 High Road, London N12 0BQ T: (020) 8369 5000 F: (020) 8369 5001 E: central@ujia.org
United Jewish Israel Appeal, Charity Reg. No. 1060078. A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 3295115.