

THE CENTRE FOR JEWISH LIFE

WINTER REPORT



**CENTRE FOR
JEWISH LIFE**

where jews connect



The Centre for Jewish Life has had a very active and exciting last quarter. We have hosted many interesting and dynamic speakers and have gained momentum in the young professional community as a business, educational and social nexus.

The last semester has been a jam packed and has included TED TALKS, Friday night dinners The CJL and at the Regents Park Marriott, Purim: The Ultimate Bond Bash, The Young Artists Art Exhibition, as well as an Israel leadership and advocacy forum which will be launched in the next term.



TED TALKS

TED talks, our new innovation have attracted over 400 participants and have generated very positive feedback from our young professionals and lay leader speakers who have generously shared of their time and expertise to inspire and help nurture our young professional community.

The series was privileged to have a unique group of London's most successful businessmen who wowed our young professionals with novel insights and stories of how to achieve success.

TRANSFORMATIONAL TUESDAYS: TED STYLE

Inspirational leaders share secrets for successful living

SESSION 1



KEITH BRESLAUER

Tues Feb 25th: KEITH BRESLAUER

Overcoming insurmountable obstacles in our lives.

Breslau spoke to the audience about his journey from a struggling American student to the property tycoon he is today. He inspired the young professionals with his tenacious approach to life and inspired the audience to challenge themselves to continually make strides to achieving success.

Founder and Director Patron Capital, and accomplished mountaineer

Tues March 4th: EDWARD MISRAHI

Emotional Intelligence vs Intelligence Quotient in the world of business.

Misrahi shared many interesting insights with the audience and advised that being self aware was very important in helping to be successfully in the workplace and at home.

Founder Ronit Capital, previously of Eton Park and chairman of BICOM



EDWARD MISRAHI

Tue March 11th: TREVOR ABRAMSON

The art of closing the deal...Tips for how to seal the deal in relationships and business

Abramson regaled the audience with his anecdotes on deals and shared many tips for upcoming sales candidates.

Managing Director Glentree International Estates, Legendary real estate agent entrepreneur who changed the face of the market



April 1st: LORD JUSTICE RIX

The art of mediation in the real world

Lord Rix spoke to the audience about the pros and cons of mediation and offered many insights to enlighten the packed audience about the benefits of settling issues amicably.



Formerly Lord Justice of appeal from 2000 -2013, Lord Rix now serves as an arbitrator and mediator.

Tuesday March 25th: JOE OSSNASS

Creating a team spirit. A workplace that is energized, innovative and motivated

Osnoss astounded the audience with his approach to team building by using biblical figures as a reference to leadership.

Managing Director and co-head of Silverlake Europe, global leader in technology investments

April 8th: DAVID SEMAYA

Transcending the anxieties and pressures of our professional lives

Chairman of Nikko Asset Management, previously head of Barclays wealth management UK and Ireland



WE ALSO HAD TALKS GIVEN BY:

YOSEF VOGEL: Psychological & Mystical insights into biblical personalities. Abraham, Jacob, Joseph and Judah, Moses and Aaron, Rachel and David.

RIVKAH VOGEL: Mystical insights into human character traits. Trust, love, respect, fear, envy and humility.

MENDY VOGEL: A deeper and mystical insights into the portion of the week. Relevant lessons for today.

SHIRA DRUION: Timeless insights for 21st century living. The Jewish view on Shabbat, kashrut, relationships, modesty, life after death and soul mates.

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS:

“The Ted talks were informative and interesting and the range of guests was impressive. The format was good – food before the crowd and the crowd was varied.”

Natalie Braier: Deloitte, Business Development manager, Indirect Tax

“TED talks have been amazing overall! CJL invited many great speakers who proved to be very inspiring and who have made an impact to my daily professional and personal life. The opportunity to mingle with the participants before and after each talk was a plus and I am very much looking forward to the next session of TED talks.”

Caroline Tomas: Business Unit manager from Albatross Global Solutions – UK and Ireland.

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER AT THE REGENTS PARK MARRIOTT

The Marriott Magic sold out Friday night dinners are renowned on the global circuit for bringing over 300 young Jews together five times a year. These dinners play a very important role as a meeting ground for hundreds of international Jews from over 50 nationalities. The 21st century Jewish climate demands of us to keep innovating ways to bring together young Jews and these events have become the perfect backdrop to encase Judaism in a chic, stylish and warm environment so that it is palatable to young Jews from across the spectrum.

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS:

“It was great getting my friends together in one room; actually one has already been out on a date with a girl he met there!”

Michael Basch: BAMKO: Managing Director, Europe

“That there’s an air of excitement. It’s more than a desire to have a Shabbat dinner that unites us. It’s a genuine interest in meeting new people and sharing experiences.”

Elise Steinberg: London School of Economics

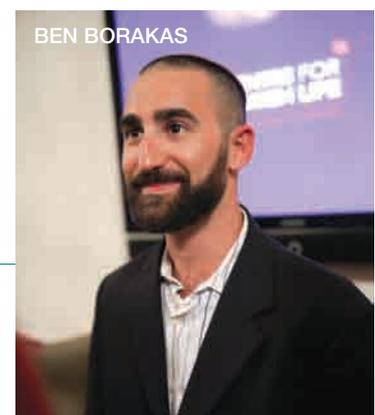
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS AT THE CJL

The CJL Friday night dinners are famous for their intimate ambience. Each dinner attracts a crowd of around 70 people and is themed to ensure that the centre caters for a varied combination of sorts. This winter quarter we have hosted a Sephardi themed dinner and a dinner with foods from around the world. Participants thoroughly enjoyed the jovial atmosphere and the meaningful interactions that take place between the young professionals on global guest list.

CJL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM

BEN BORAKAS

Google entrepreneur, Ben Borakas spoke for a packed audience about his \$400million Google deal. Borakas enthralled the audience with his epic journey from a young entrepreneur to the business guru he is today.



CJL – FINANCE FORUM



LORD STANLEY FINK

addressed a packed room and shared moving insights about his personal and professional life.

Lord Fink spoke about the importance of charity which is a trait he believes to have inherited from his parents. He told the audience that his parents were never rich but they always had the philosophy that if you were approached by somebody you knew or a cause you had a connection with it wasn't a question of 'yes' or 'no', but of 'how much?' He also spoke about the responsibility on successful people to give as a matter of one's own conscience.

LAUNCHING OF INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADORS FORUM

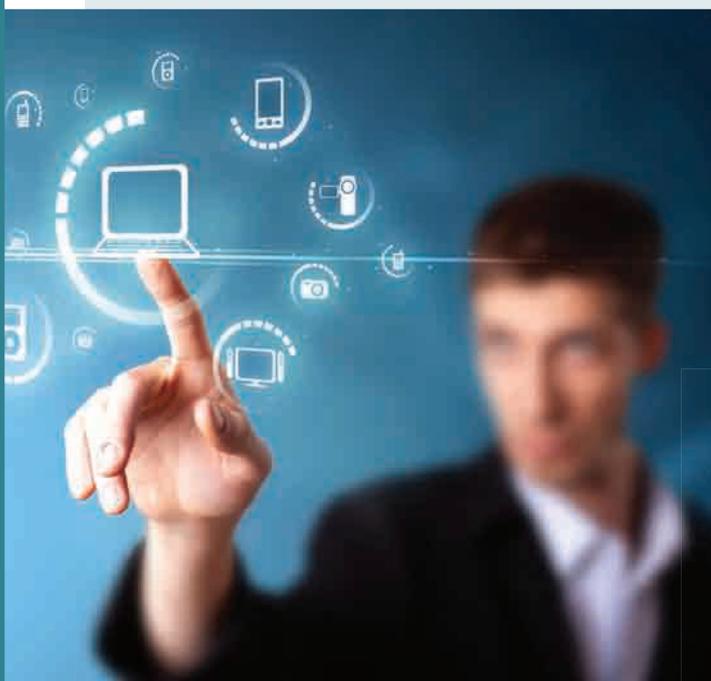
Promoting Israel's Creativity and Innovation To The International Community

While there is a trend for Israel to be increasingly isolated in the court of international opinion, effective communication in the 21st Century can be used to promote Israel's creativity to the international community. It can be done so through a range of topics, which would include military tactics, hi-tech or scientific research. When Israel's achievements are promoted to the international community, the

contribution she has made in methodology and innovation comes to light and it becomes apparent that millions benefit every day from her creativity and innovation, which are central to Jewish identity and transcend the political spectrum.

The Centre for Jewish Life aims to create Jewish ambassadors and to promote an ethos of leadership in and amongst its young professionals. It also aims to represent the interests of the State of Israel and of the Jewish community to the wider community via the 'Israel Ambassadors Forum' (IAF).

This forum will seek to strengthen the Jewish identity of young professionals and guide the CJL towards a more defined goal for its members to be actively involved with Israel as well as Jewish and communal issues. This will ensure that the CJL's programmes are sustainable and scalable.



MARCH OF THE LIVING

March of the living has collaborated with the CJL to take a group of young professionals to visit the historically Jewish city of Krakow. The four day trip saw 13000 Jews come together to share in a life changing experience that connected the participants to their history and more importantly to their heritage and to the values which have held the Jewish people together through the generations.



CJL GOES INTERNATIONAL WITH FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER IN TEL AVIV

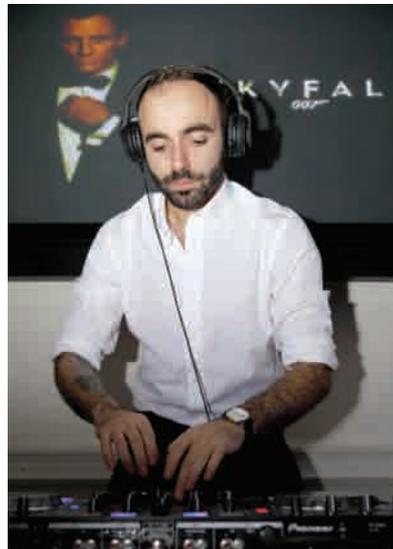
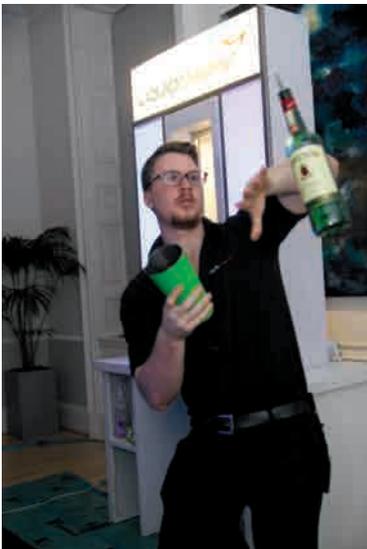
The 25th July will see CJL reach a new level of international acclaim as young Jews from all over the world unite in a Shabbat Dinner at the Hilton in Tel Aviv. The aim of this dinner is to put CJL onto the international map so that we can expand and grow the organisation beyond the parameters of the UK Jewry.



PURIM@CJL: THE ULTIMATE BOND BASH



The annual Purim took on a Bond theme as martinis were served stirred not shaken. A large crowd of Jews danced and partied into till way after midnight creating an authentic Purim bash!



YOUNG ARTISTS ART EXHIBITION

The annual art exhibition sponsored by the Metliss family and organised Claire Berdugo and Yael Smouha attracted a crowd of over 300 people from across the spectrum. Hundreds of Jews came out to support the 15 artists who exhibited their work at the centre.



FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS:

“The Metliss family were delighted to sponsor the exhibition which provided an opportunity for young Jewish artists to display their creativity, energy and talent.”

Jonathan Metliss: Partner: Davenport Lyons



CJL PROPERTY FORUM

CJL recently launched a property forum to create an opportunity for young Jews in the property sector to network and connect with prominent personalities in the property sector. The forum is headed up Dean Jaraj, Simon Geldmann and Michel Schach

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS:

“The property forum event with Harry Handelsman saw the CJL embark on a new format for guest speakers. An intimate group of like minded property enthusiasts was assembled, allowing for a free flowing dialogue between the ever astute Handelsman and future property tycoons! The event was an undoubted success.”

Dean Jaraj, Capital Markets, CBRE

SEDER

The CJL is providing its annual Passover Seder and is expecting to host approximately 150 people from all over the world to share in an authentic and inspiring Seder experience.

These experiences have been a great demonstration of the CJL ethos which strives to welcome all Jews from all walks of life irrespective of their background and levels of affiliation.



CJL BENEFIT DINNER



BRIGADIER GENERAL YOSSI KUPERWASSER



DAVID MORRIS

The Centre for Jewish Life gala banquet was held at the Montcalm Hotel and celebrated their five year anniversary. The 250 guests gathered to celebrate the role that the CJL has played in the lives of thousands of Jewish young professionals since their inception.

Brigadier General Yosef Kuperwasser, the director general of the Israeli ministry of International Relations and Strategic Affairs was the guest speaker and shared insights into the de-legitimisation of Israel. He spoke of the imperative need for every Jew to understand how relevant that battle is for him despite the fact that he may not live in Israel.



RABBI YOSEF VOGEL, ROY PEIRES AND RABBI MENDY VOGEL

“The centre provides a vital service for our community, encouraging Jewish continuity in the heart of central London.”



KEITH BRESLAUER

The guests of honour were Roy and Susan Peires who were honoured for the tremendous contribution they have made to Jewish life and specifically to The CJL. Peires accepted the award with great humility and congratulated the CJL for their noble work and for the indispensable role they continue to play in the preservation of Jewish life for the thousands who come through their doors.

Peires said, "The centre for Jewish life led by Rabbis Yosef and Mendy is imbued

with a genuine Chabad understanding and non-judgemental approach to Jews from all walks of life. The centre attracts thousands of young Jews



MARTIN MOSHAL

“The CJL is creating connections for thousands of young Jews.”

from all over the world, where they can feel at home with like-minded, familiar people, in a place which allows them to be themselves and to share a common understanding of our culture.

In the last five years close to ten thousand unique participants have benefitted from the highly innovative programmes and events which have also enabled over eighty couples to meet one another.

The centre is also creating connections for thousands of young Jews; and is creating friendships and community for many who lack this by facilitating the opportunity for hundreds of young Jews to meet a partner with whom they can share their culture, their heritage and their faith.

The centre provides a vital service for our community, encouraging Jewish continuity in the heart of central London in the 21st century.”

The Centre raised £350 000 from their generous benefactors and have advised that the funds will be used to grow their program repertoire which includes community development, leadership enrichment and educational endeavours for thousands of young Jews.



GUESTS CONNECTING AT THE DINNER