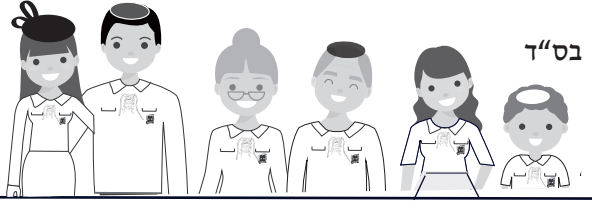


זכור את יום השבת לאקדשו.  
ששת ימים תעבד ועשית כל מלאכתך,  
יום השביעי שבת לה'

# SHABBAT LASHEM

THE VOICE OF BNEI AKIVA UK

PARASHAT NOACH  
3<sup>RD</sup> CHESHVAN 5782  
8<sup>ST</sup> & 9<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2021  
VOLUME 32 ISSUE 2



## SEEING THE GOOD

EMMA CREEK  
SHEVET AVICHAI

After the flood was over, Hashem showed Noach the rainbow as a sign that He would never destroy the world again.

אֶת־קִשְׁתִּי נָתַתִּי בְּעַנְנֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם לְאוֹת בְּרִית  
בֵּינִי וּבֵין הָאָרֶץ:

(בראשית ט, יג)

*I have set My bow in the clouds, and it shall serve as a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.*

(Bereishit, 9:13)

Out of all the signs in the universe for a covenant, why a rainbow?

There is a well known explanation given by the Ramban. He says that the rainbow reminds us of a bow from a bow and arrow, but a rainbow is upside down which soldiers do when they mean no harm. Ramban says that is what Hashem is telling us through a rainbow, that He means no harm when we see one. He has the power to destroy but He isn't going to.

However, I'd like to focus on possibly a slightly less well known beautiful explanation given by Rav Yosef Dov Soloveitchik.

Noach was a great tzaddik but he still had some deficiencies. One deficiency he said was that despite the fact Noach spent 120 years of his life building a teiva (ark) with no questions asked, still Noach didn't succeed in convincing one person to come into the teiva with him. Not one person did teshuva, not one person changed their ways. They

all perished in the flood. Noach could not and did not save even one person. Rav Soloveitchik said Noach's flaw was that he did not see even the remotest possibility of good in the evil people of his generation.

We don't hear of Noach davening for the people of his generation to be saved, or 'bargaining' with Hashem to try and save them like Avraham did with the people of S'dom.

And why? Because he did not see past the exterior of who they were, Rav Soloveitchik says. Noach couldn't fathom there was even the smallest amount of goodness in the people.

And that, says Rav Soloveitchik, is the reason of the rainbow. In every cloud and grey sky, a rainbow only appears if there is a little bit of sun. There has to always be some light in a dark, cloudy sky for a rainbow to happen.

Whenever things look bad, when people seem bad externally, like there is absolutely no good in them or that they could do, remember the sign that Hashem gave Noach and how Rav Soloveitchik interprets it.

We are told by Chazal that the way you want to be judged by Hashem is the way you must judge others.

No one ever knows the full story, behind every closed door so it is our obligation to view them in a good light because even when all evidence points in a negative direction, you never really know.

## EMMA WAS ROSH OF MACHANE TZAFON 5780

### SHABBAT TIMES

London In 18:07 Out 19:10

Manchester In 18:13 Out 19:18

Cambridge In 18:02 Out 19:09

Oxford

Bristol

Birmingham

In 18:08 Out 19:14

In 18:13 Out 19:20

In 18:10 Out 19:17

Leeds

Liverpool

Jerusalem

In 18:07 Out 19:16

In 18:13 Out 19:21

In 17:39 Out 18:51

## Q&A WITH RABBANIT SARAH

**QUESTION: I FEEL SO CONNECTED TO ISRAEL WHEN I'M THERE, BUT HOW DO I MAINTAIN THIS WHEN I'M BACK AT HOME IN ENGLAND?**



**Answer:** Many of us may have encountered a moment, an experience, a time when we felt a special connection to Eretz Yisrael. It could have been whilst touring the biblical sites and literally walking

in the footsteps of our forefathers; after spending an extended period of time in the country or just that overwhelming, inexplicable feeling of being home when you step off the plane at Ben Gurion airport. But the difficult and yet crucial question is how to maintain this connection when the spark is gone?

You may have heard that question before in a different context, probably when talking about interpersonal relationships. The truth is that all relationships of worth require the investment of time and effort to enable them to flourish and progress and yes - our relationship with Eretz Yisrael is no different. I certainly cannot take credit for making this comparison. Rav Kook in Orot 1:1 explains that Eretz Yisrael is not just a piece of property but rather something that we have a real living connection to. Like with all relationships, the biggest obstacle is that we expect it to be easy and to automatically maintain itself. Perhaps understanding that this isn't the case is a crucial first step in the right direction to not letting that spark fade.

The first piece of advice I would give is to make Israel an integral part of your life. The obvious way to maintain that connection is to visit, as often as you can. This will remind you what you love about Israel, how it makes you feel and enable you to store up those experiences which will tide you over whilst you are away. Unfortunately travel opportunities are not as common at the moment but thankfully in today's technologically advanced world we can still "stay in touch" with Eretz Yisrael. You can choose to visit its sites virtually or join online learning programs with leading Israeli institutions, sit opposite the Kotel cam in your lunch break or "hang out" with your friends and family that are

there - do whatever you can to maintain that connection and help retain your familiarity with the land.

My next piece of advice would be to watch what narrative you use when discussing Eretz Yisrael. We are all very good at making jokes about the culture, talking about how different it is there and how no one knows how to queue. But how often do we talk in a positive way? Whilst these types of conversations may be easier to have than to actually discuss and get to grips with deeper feelings and emotions that we may have (I can almost hear the gasp that I even suggested this). Talking about Eretz Yisrael in an upbeat way will have a massive impact on your mindset towards it. Unfortunately, we are not short of sources for anti Israel conversations so if you have a positive relationship with it, let's focus on that!

**TALKING ABOUT ERETZ YISRAEL IN AN UPBEAT WAY WILL HAVE A MASSIVE IMPACT ON YOUR MINDSET TOWARDS IT.**

My last piece of advice is straight out of a relationship handbook - appreciate what you have. The fact that we can even be having a discussion

about how to maintain a connection when we are away from Israel is coming from such a place of privilege that we have merited to go to Israel in the first place. Let's take a step back for a minute and focus on the fact that for years, Eretz Yisrael was limited to being a focal point of our tefillot, rather than a tangible place that we can go to visit or even move to. How miraculous is it that whilst other ancient cities have been relegated to the pages of history books, ours have jumped out of those pages and been revived. Thinking about this may help to maintain focus and perspective and ensure that we don't take our relationship for granted.

*SARAH KENIGSBURG IS THE RABBANIT SHALICHA OF BNEI AKIVA. SHE MADE ALIYAH FROM MANCHESTER AND LIVED IN ISRAEL FOR TEN YEARS BEFORE COMING ON SHLICHUT WITH HER FAMILY, SO HAS LOTS OF EXPERIENCE MAINTAINING HER RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL BOTH WHILST THERE AND HERE IN THE UK.*

**DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR RABBANIT SARAH? SEND IT IN TO RABBANIT@BAUK.ORG.**

# MEET THE NIVCHARIM

**ABI LADERMAN** | ROSH NIVCHERET



Hi, my name is Abi Laderman and I am privileged to be your Rosh Nivcheret this year. I am from Brondesbury Park and went to South Hampstead High School. I was Rosh of my sviva for two years, have been on multiple machanot as a chanicha and a madricha and I believe I am the only person to have ever held the official tafkid of Babysitter! I spent a year at Midreshet Harova with Torani and am currently studying Biochemistry at Queen Mary University of London.

In my spare time I can be found working out the time difference in Canada or visiting the London Bayit. This year I am looking forward to ensuring constant positive communication between the Hanhalla and the rest of the Tnua, and supporting our Madrichim, Sganim and Roshim to ensure the Tnua runs as effectively as possible!

# MEET THE MAZKIRUT

**JOSH DANIEL** | CHINUCH WORKER



Hi, I'm Josh and I am part of this year's Chinuch Team! I grew up in Edgware and then Hendon and went to Hasmo for high school. I spent a year learning in Yeshivat Hako-tel doing Torani, and then went on to complete a degree in Natural Sciences at Cambridge.

This year I'm working part-time for BA and also studying for my MSc in Philosophy of Science at UCL.

I've been involved with Bnei Akiva ever since I went on Israel Machane at the age of 16. Since then, I've been a madrich on four Machanot, as well as Sgan and Rosh! In my

spare time I like playing piano, eating rice and writing made-up stories about my friends.

My tafkid as Chinuch Worker involves producing educational content for Machane and Svivot as well as running some exciting projects and learning programs. I am looking forward to engaging younger chaverim with our educational content both through KADIMA as well as all the svivot around the country that are springing back into action!

**CONTACT JOSH AT [CHINUCH@BAUK.ORG](mailto:CHINUCH@BAUK.ORG)**

# SIMCHAT TORAH IN MANCHESTER

Bogrim travelled from Manchester, London, Leeds and Birmingham to celebrate Simchat Torah at the Northern Bayit in Salford, Manchester.

Meals were provided for Bogrim and Sixth-formers, and there was a fantastic atmosphere. Chatan Torah was Joel Ucko and Chatan Bereishit was Rafi Kleiman, whilst N'shei Chayil were Tamara Kay and Sarah Daniel.

Participants enjoyed multiple Shiurim and Divrei Torah in honour of the day.

Mazkir Sam Prais described the event as 'very successful'. Originally from Manchester himself, he said that, 'it was really great to see Bogrim from across the country come together with the Manchester Bnei Akiva community to celebrate Simchat Torah.'

Bnei Akiva UK would like to thank all the members of the Manchester Jewish Community who hosted Bogrim in their homes.



# WHAT'S GOING ON?

-Calling Year 13s! The **Shevet Dorot Shabbaton** will take place at the London Bayit on the **22nd-23rd October!** Sign up now at [www.bauk.org/shevet-shabbaton](http://www.bauk.org/shevet-shabbaton)

-Sviva on **Shabbat afternoon** is back! To find out where your nearest **Sviva** is, contact Adi at [svivot@bauk.org](mailto:svivot@bauk.org)

-BA is looking for some **charismatic Bogrim in both London and Manchester** to go into schools to run **lunch and learns**, as well as take part in other exciting opportunities! To get involved, contact Josh and Dania at [chinuch@bauk.org](mailto:chinuch@bauk.org)

- Keep an eye out for **exciting Bnei Akiva updates** for all ages!

- Be sure to like our **Facebook page (Bnei Akiva UK)** and follow our **Instagram (bneiakivauk)** to get regular updates with what is going on in the Tnuva.

- Visit [bauk.org/feedback](http://bauk.org/feedback) for contact details for all Mazkirut members and to leave any general feedback!

## SHABBAT SHALOM!!!



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**TO SPONSOR AN EDITION OF SHABBAT LASHEM OR FOR ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT DANIA AT [CHINUCH@BAUK.ORG](mailto:CHINUCH@BAUK.ORG)**