

London  
3.46 4.57/5.14  
Manchester  
3.46 4.57/5.17  
Gateshead  
3.30 4.53  
Bournemouth  
3.57 5.06  
Leeds  
3.39 4.51

EVERY WEDNESDAY £1.50



# JEWISH TRIBUNE



THE VOICE OF  
ANGLO-JEWISH ORTHODOXY

FOUNDED 1962

New Issue No. 042/MMCDXXVIII | November 21st 2018 | י"ג כסלו תשע"ט | פרשת וישלח | 7.50 | \$2.50 | Belgium €3.00

## AIRBNB SNUB

West Bank listings removed

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## UN GOLAN VOTE

US says No!

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## SKULEN INSPIRES

Manchester visit enthralled

20-21



## GOOD SHABBOS SECTION

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# Why early elections are off

Marcy Oster  
JERUSALEM

There's a well-known saying that goes "It's Hard to Say Goodbye If You Won't Leave." It could also describe the latest chapter in a coalition crisis that threatens to bring down Benjamin Netanyahu's government.

The Israeli prime minister narrowly avoided having to call snap elections this week after, in a surprise turnaround, Education

Minister Naftali Bennett announced that he would stand behind Netanyahu.

Bennett, head of the Jewish Home party, a member of the government coalition, threatened last week to leave the government and take his eight right-wing Knesset seats with him. He was demanding to be named defence minister, replacing Avigdor Lieberman, who resigned over differences about how to deal with Gaza.

Lieberman and his five MKs left the government last Wednesday, leaving Netanyahu with the narrowest of Knesset majorities, 61 seats in the 120-seat Parliament.

At least three ministers had called for early elections to be held as soon as possible. Interior Minister Rabbi Arye Deri of the Shas party backed down on Sunday, and Bennett followed suit the next day. Netanyahu and Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon, head of the Kulanu party, which

holds 10 seats in the current government, met on Sunday prior to the prime minister's announcement and are scheduled to meet again in the coming days.

Netanyahu met over the weekend with the heads of the parties in his government, including Bennett, in an effort to preserve the coalition. On Sunday, a visibly agitated Netanyahu announced in a televised broadcast that he would personally assume the defence

minister position, saying that "I have a clear plan. I know what to do and when to do it. And we will do it."

Netanyahu is currently in charge of the foreign affairs, defence, health and immigration absorption ministries. An unnamed senior government official told the Israeli media that he soon would appoint a foreign minister in an attempt to court allies.

*Continued on page 3*

## What really happened on flights from NY to Tel Aviv?

Dina Rosell

Two El Al flights from New York to Eretz Yisroel last Thursday were unfortunately delayed at the point of departure due to stormy conditions on

the East Coast of America. The inclement weather, in fact, caused problems for hundreds of flights.

The mainstream Jewish media reporting the two El Al flights, however, seemed to suggest that the passengers involved were not accepting their fate gracefully. Those travelling to Eretz Yisroel were understandably very concerned about a situation exacerbated not only by the

five-hour delay in NY but also by the fact that Israel is eight hours ahead of American East Coast time, issues that indicated the planes might land on Shabbos. Ultimately, one plane landed in Athens and the other which was expected to land in Rome, continued to Ben Gurion due to the condition of one of the passengers who required medical attention.

*Continued on page 4*

## Inspiring chinuch convention makes history

Nechama Gold

History has been made. Bonds have been forged. European Jewry has shown that Chinuch *habonim vehabonos* is close to its heart and deserves its full attention. Over five hundred mechanchim and mechanchos from across the UK and Europe have just returned from an inspiring weekend in of Amsterdam where they participated at the first European Chinuch convention.

"The convention was an unbelievable display of *Veyasu kulom agudah achas, laasos retsoncha belevav sholem*" said one menaheles of a high school in London. "The message was extremely clear. Not one negative word was heard throughout the weekend. The speakers focused on how to connect our children with Yiddishkeit and the Ribono shel Olam in a positive way; how to give today's kids a pride in being the Am Hanivchar.

*Continued on page 30*



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## Inspiring chinuch convention makes history

*Continued from page 1*

Although a lot of the droshos were said on Shabbos when no notes can be taken, yet the messages were remembered and internalized because they were *yotsim min halev*. "The amazing success is a reflection of the *chashivus* for chinuch felt by the organisers and was recognized in every detail of the weekend," was another feedback heard.

Another point that came up: There were people there from a wide range of backgrounds and from all walks of life, and at the beginning they might have seen their differences, yet at the end of the Shabbos all they saw was their similarities, their shared passions for the service of Hashem and the benefit of chinuch of Yiddishe children.

The convention was graced by the participation of gedolei harabonim, namely Rav Malkiel Kotler, Rosh Yeshivas Lakewood, member of the moetzes gedolei hatorah of Agudas Yisroel of American; Rav Yaakov Bender, Rosh Yeshivas Darchei Torah in Far Rockaway; Dayan Aaron Dovid Dunner, of the UOHC and rov of Tottenham Adass Yisroel; Rav Aharon Schiff, Rov of Machzikei Hadass kehilla in Antwerp; Rav Gershon Miller, Mashgiach Ruchani of Gateshead Yeshiva Gedolah and many expert mechanchim and professionals amongst them Rav Noach Orlowek; Dr Aharon Hersh Fried; Rav Shmuel Yaakov Klein; Rav Shimshon Silkin and Rav Yonason Roodyn of Klal Chazon; Rebetzin Reena Tarshish of Eretz Yisroel and many many more.

### Opening session

The convention was opened on Thursday 8.30pm with a short video message from Rav Shmuel Kamenetzky.

The ninety-five-year-old Rosh Yeshiva of Philadelphia was at the last minute unable to attend due to health considerations. He spoke via video, giving chizuk to the mechanchim and mechanchos who come together to gain tools to improve the chinuch of Yiddishe children which is crucial in troubled times, and he wished them hatzlocho.

Rabbi Yisroel Meir Rubinfeld, educational consultant for Torah Umesorah, chaired the proceedings and thanked all the committee members for all their endless hours of work and he gave a short overview of how the idea of a convention was started. He introduced Rav dovid Nojowitz, menahel of Torah Umesorah who explained what Torah Umesorah accomplishes in the USA.

"I phoned the godol hador Rav Chaim Kanievsky and asked him for a message for the convention" announced Dayan Aaron Dovid Dunner to the large crowd, "and his message to the mechanchim and mechanchos was clear: They need to prepare their lessons very very well".

### Menaholim session

A special session then took place for menaholim headed by Rabbi Rubinfeld attended by around one hundred menaholim and headteachers, to discuss how to proceed so that this convention should have a real and lasting effect. They discussed ideas for follow up meetings and ways of sharing costs of bringing specialists into schools etc.

Throughout the entire convention besides Shabbos, exhibitions were open that presented products and programmes from England, Israel and the USA to be implemented in the classroom. People could constantly be seen perusing and discussing the many options for teaching enhancements and taking down contacts.

### Friday morning - networking breakfast

After shacharis a special networking breakfast took place separately for men



**L-R: Rav Gershon Miller (Mashgiach, Gateshead Yeshiva Gedolah), Rav Dovid Nojowitz (Menahel, Torah Umesorah, USA), Rabbi Eliezer Wolff (Chief Rabbi, Amsterdam), Rav Yaakov Bender (Rosh Yeshiva, Darchei Torah, Far Rockaway, NY), Rav Malkiel Kotler (Rosh Yeshiva, Beth Medrash Govoha, Lakewood, NJ), Dayan Aaron Dovid Dunner (Dayan, UOHC, London)**

and women in which a nice buffet was served and people could then take their seats at one of the tables that were divided into categories for example a table for rebbes from year 1 to 6, a table for gemoro rebbes, a table for chumash teachers year 3 to 6 and so on. Every table had a facilitator and throughout breakfast people were sharing ideas and taking notes.

### Specialist workshops

Throughout the convention there were six concurrent sessions in which five different workshops were taking place at the same time and an average of eighty people took part in each workshop. Some schools that had several representatives, were very organized and sent one person to each workshop and then compared notes so that the school will have gained the maximum out of this opportunity.

### Shabbos

The Shabbos was an uplifting experience for everyone. After an inspiring kabalas Shabbos with Reb Abisch Brodt, Rav Malkiel Kotler spoke about the eternal zechus of those who pass on the mesorah to the next generation and are building the next generation.

After the Friday night meal a oneg Shabbos took place with singing and Rav A D Dunner sharing stories of inspiration. Spontaneously the women also got together in one of the rooms and gained chizuk and inspiration from Rebetzin Reena Tarshish. This sharing about chinuch continued until deep into the night in the hotel lobby.

A big highlight of the event was Rav Gershon Miller's speech after shacharis in which he brought up the important topic that children today are very coddled and we need to do more to prepare them for the realities of life and for dealing with nisyonos of the time.

At Shalosh Seudos Rav Schiff spoke in Yiddish for close to an hour about the achrayus of a mechanech, to prepare

well, not to be distracted etc, and he shared candid stories about his years as a maggid shiur and how the impact of his success and his failures continues to be felt.

### Gedolim panel

After havdolo on Motzei Shabbos an amazing panel took place with pre submitted questions with Rav Kotler, Rav Bender, Rav Orlowek and Rav Miller. Questions revolved around modern technology, what books are good for kids to read, how to farther without embarrassing the weaker student and more.

A presentation was then made by the Steering Committee to the initiator and supporter of the entire convention Mr Boruch Van de Kamp. He was presented with a beautiful plaque engraved with the personal divrei brocho and signature of the roshei yeshivos and rabonim.

### Sunday-closing session

After another successful networking breakfast and more workshops, the closing session featured Rav Schiff with more chizuk and the lessons we need to learn from this event. He concluded that after such an event of Kiddush Hashem it is clear that today's mechanchim and mechanchos are mevakshim and they want the best for our children and feel the achrayus that rests on their shoulders.

### Kiddush Hashem

It was reported that the event made a tremendous Kiddush Hashem on the hotel staff, who commented that they had never seen such a large gathering of people who behave in such an impeccable way. One waitress said "no one looked at their phones, no one got drunk, everyone was so focussed on one another, I have never seen anything like that".

"The entire event was superbly organized and every detail taken care of, it was just so pleasant," many participants commented.



**Representatives of the Steering Committee presenting Divrei Brocho to Mr Boruch van de Kamp. L-R: Rabbi Yakov Shafferman (Jesode-Hatora Beth Jacob, Antwerp), Rabbi Schie Sänger (Jewish Girls School, Zürich), Mr Boruch van de Kamp, Rabbi Yisroel Meir Rubinfeld (Torah Umesorah, USA) Rabbi Yitzchok Weitz (Beis Yaakov Primary School, NW London), Rabbi Yitzchok Uri Dunner (Cheder Amsterdam)**