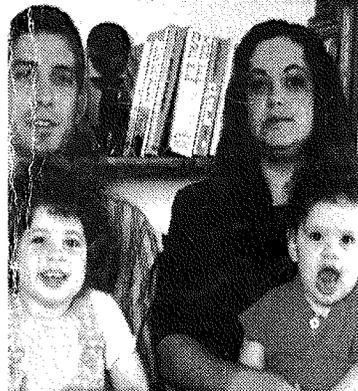


HABONIM DROR  
PERTH



YEAR  
BOOK  
2000



הבונים דרור

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## EDITORIAL



To the Perth Jewish Community,

I hope you enjoy reading this yearbook. I'll briefly explain what it's all about and why on earth we'd send you a copy. The point of the year book is to :

- help Jewish youth movements gain greater exposure in the community to give more people a chance to become involved.
- raise funds to subsidise camps, seminars, Israel experience programs and communal events throughout the year and drum up support from families, businesses and Jewish organisations who might like to sponsor next year's yearbook.
- produce something special for our chanichim.

**Why all this effort?** Because we feel Habonim Dror is essential to the community and that it functions best with the community's support. Habonim provides a forum for Jewish youth, as madrichim to continue educating themselves on Jewish, Zionist and social issues after they finish school and to play a part in broadening Jewish education for youth from years 3-12. It provides a place for Jewish youth to come together, not simply in a social context but in a meaningful, Jewish context; to gain identity and knowledge outside of their schools or homes and to develop leadership skills as non-apathetic, informed people.

Our intentions are largely to strengthen Jewish identity, create a sense of connection with Israel and a commitment to strengthening communities in the diaspora and we are hopeful that ultimately we will play an active part in helping to solve Israel's social problems. Week to week we endeavour to foster tolerance and open-mindedness, and also educate about social justice, empowering our youth to overcome apathy and encourage them to live according to their beliefs.

Habonim Dror exists worldwide and, alongside other youth movements such as Bnei Akiva (and Hashi, Netzer, Hineni and Betar which only exist outside of Perth), plays a vital role in Jewish, Zionist and informal education.

**Without sounding like a missionary**, if any of these things sound important to you, and you fall into the right age group then consider how you might be able to benefit from or contribute to one of Perth's youth movements. If you've never tried one before, then maybe you should. If you tried one a few years ago and hated it - then try again. Movements are dynamic and change according to the people in them at the time.

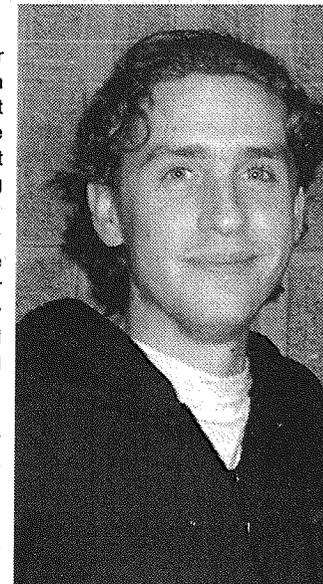
Finally, I'd like to wish a massive 'thank you' to Judy Shorrock for all her work on this yearbook, and to David and Nicky Kegen for meeting our impossible printing deadline. Thank you to the community for your support as sponsors and advertisers which makes Habonim Dror possible and thank you to the Habonim madrichim for your articles and help.

Shana Tova and Aleh Ve'Hagshem,

*Ariella Gild.*

Yearbook Co-ordinator.

## MAZKIR



It is with much pride that I bring you the Mazkir's report for 2000, a year in which Habonim Dror Perth has yet again confirmed it's strength as Perth's number one movement for informal education. The tireless effort throughout the year from the body of madrichim have proven that, when it comes to getting a point or ideology across, youth leading youth is the way to go.

When I initially moved into the role of Mazkir of the movement, I envisioned a utopian year for Habonim Dror Perth. A year which would see chanichim attend weekly meetings by the hundreds, machanot be attended by record numbers, and an overwhelming feeling of enthusiasm and motivation from the madrichim body at all times.

Needless to say, not all visions become a reality. While my own aspirations for the year may have been a little far-fetched, I also intended to come into the role with an open mind. Willing to tackle any problems or incidents that would arise, daring to push Habonim Dror Perth to a new height of recognition in the Jewish community, and easing tension that may arise between a small, yet cosy, body of madrichim. All in all, I wanted the complete experience.

And that's exactly what I've had. The greatest aspect of the role of Mazkir is that, as the representative of the movement, you experience the highest highs, and the lowest lows. There are times when it seems as if nothing is going right, and all you want to do is find a hole and bury yourself in it, when circumstances seem to go against you, and when general opinion is in contrast to your own.

And then there are the good times. The times when you see the rewards being reaped for days, weeks, or months of tireless effort. The times when you watch a group of tightly bonded leaders excel at providing the most precious of services for the Jewish community, that of informal Jewish education. The times when you see that spark of passion and commitment in the eyes of our year 11 leaders, the future of the movement. Good times indeed.

Looking back upon the year, the eventualities of Habonim Dror's meetings, forums, b'yachads, and community events would not have been possible without the help of many people in the Jewish community. Firstly, I'd like to say a big thank you to the Habonim Dror P&F Association for another year of tireless work and endless support for Habonim Dror. I commend you for your passion and dedication, your incredible work ethic, and your patience, and I hope that the future will only bring bigger and better things. I would like to thank our shlichim. Firstly Gilad, whose term in Perth was ended prematurely, but not before he was able to leave a definite mark on Habonim Dror Perth and it's members. And secondly to Galit, who I look forward to continuing to work closely with as the year draws to a close, and I'm sure will be a passionate and ideological force as she finds her feet in Perth.

I'd like to also give a big thank you to the Federal movement. To Vered and Deb, Federal Mazkira and Rosh Chinuch, I thank you for the countless hours you sacrificed to make my job easier, and for the patience and tolerance you always extended when I was nagging too much. To the State Zionist Council and the Jewish Community Council of Western Australia, a thank you for your continuing support of active youth in the Perth Jewish Community. A big thank you to Carmel School for your growing support, in a mutual bond that will hopefully strengthen in years to come for the benefit of both Habonim Dror and Carmel School.

And last, but by no means least, to the Bogrim and Madatzim of the movement for 2000. Where do I start in expressing my gratitude? Thank you for the long hours you guys put in to make Habo the movement that it is. Thank you for your positive influence and everlasting commitment to the ideology that Habonim Dror instills in it's members. Thank you for the good times, the bad times, the laughs, the cries, and the more serious moments. Thank you, madatzim, for re-assuring my faith in the future of the movement, and thank you to the Bogrim, for consistently re-assuring my faith in the present movement. Lastly, thank you all for making me the proudest Mazkir ever (well this century at least!).

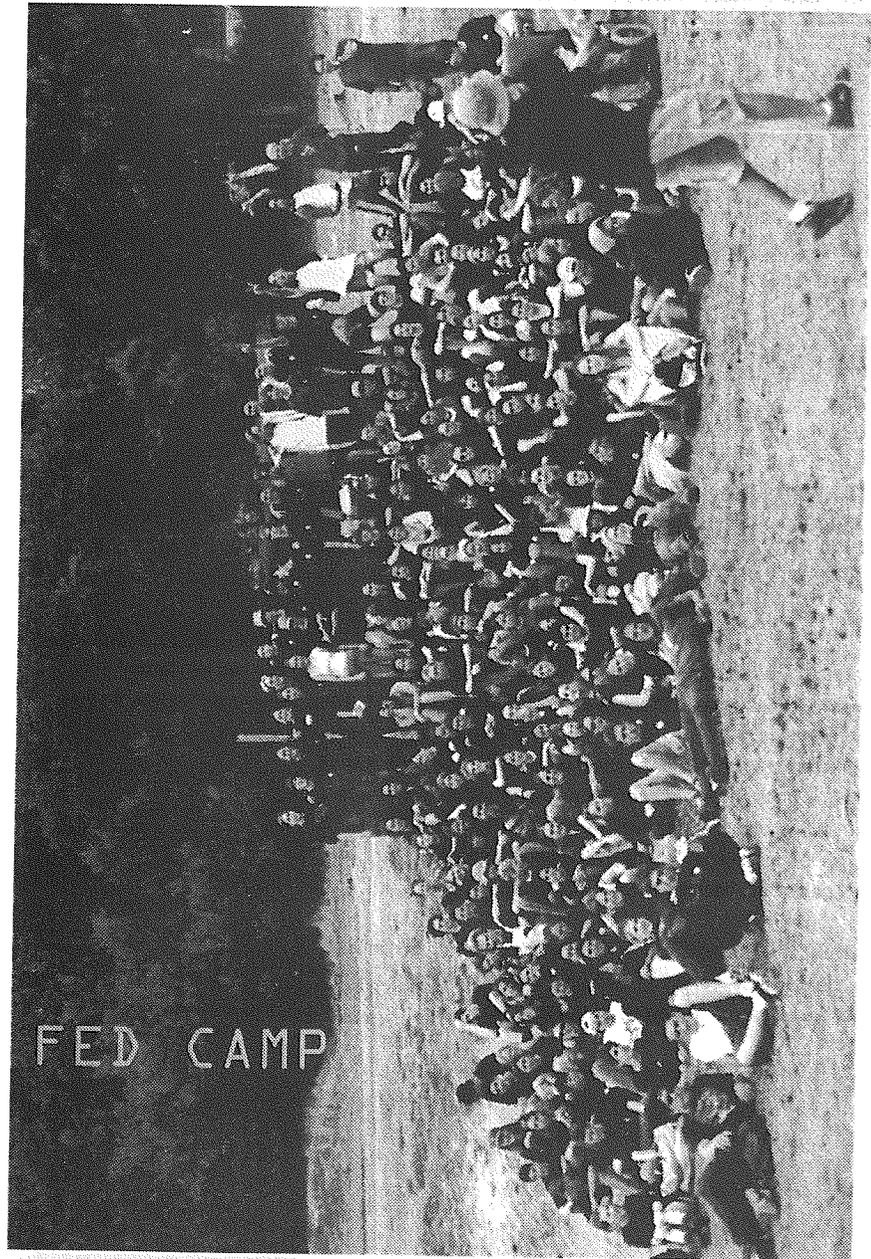
Don't ever lose that fire of passion that burns inside you as a leader, and don't ever forget, to influence or inspire just one chanich, is to change the world.

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 Mazkir 2000

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# Rosh Chinuch

Hi. Perhaps I should start by defining my role, because the Rosh Chinuch (Head of Education) tafkid is unique to Habo, and designed for a special purpose. We should never ever forget the current aims in Habo. That is, we are here to educate. It is our goal to provide Jewish education to everyone that comes from the youngest Shorashim to the oldest Bonim, the Madatzim, Bogrim, Parents and the wider community. It is basically my job to facilitate this and check that it is happening. Each meeting, which may appear very light-hearted and a lot of fun, has had many hours of planning, blocking and preparing so that it comes off just right.

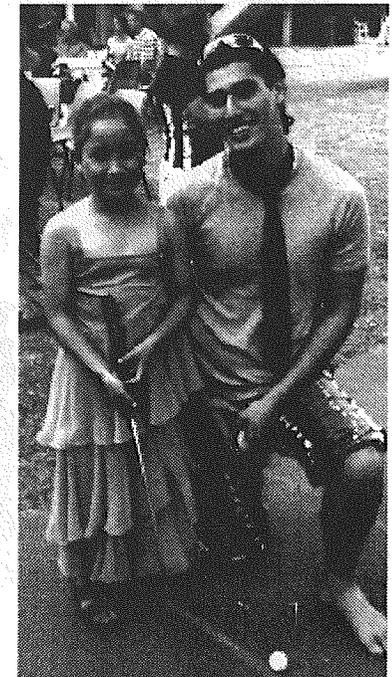
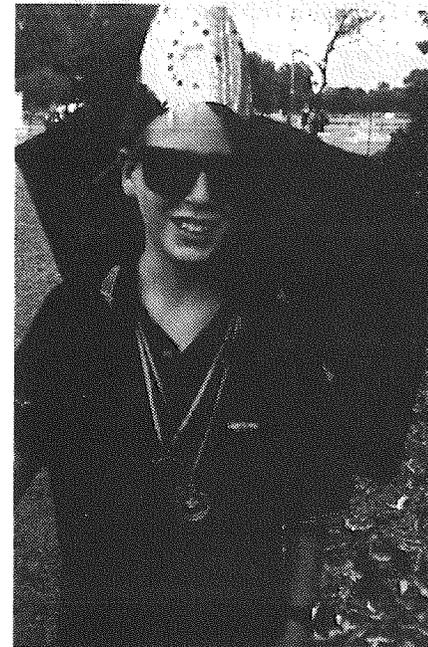
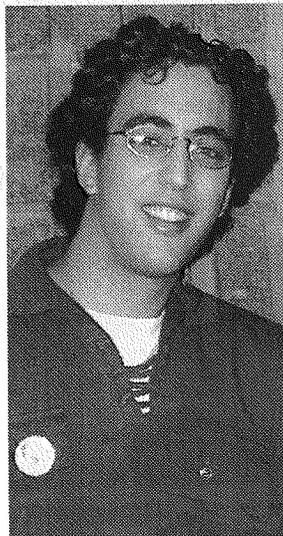
This year, we've totally re-organised the Habo library, which is fairly extensive in many areas of Jewish and Community life, including the Habo platforms. With Jared's (Rosh Technologica) internet programming abilities, a world-wide program database has been set up, enabling Habo groups from every city in Australia and New Zealand (and further) to post the programs that we run each week for others to see. All of this together has resulted in fantastic programs, filled with in-depth and current chinuch to be accessed and shared around the country and we are really seeing the results.

We have also run a number of seminars for kids, day camps and classes for Carmel School as well as monthly Va'ad Chinuch sessions for the Roshim to keep them current with what they are educating about. Chinuch Specialisation started last semester and will continue this semester, in which each Madrich runs a presentation/program for the Bogrim at our Tuesday night meetings, just another way we are educating ourselves as well as the kids. I believe that Habo provides a situation where everyone is excited to learn, and keeps coming back for more.

I think that all the Madrichim have been performing spectacularly in the way they are writing their programs, something I see first hand every week at the end of our meeting.

I wish everyone much success in the coming semester and next year, would like to say it's been a pleasure to work with all of you, let's keep up the good work.

Mike  
Rosh Chinuch 2000



# Purim

Purim was fantastic! Like all events that Habo organise, its aim was to educate and create a positive Jewish atmosphere. Presentations, skits, plays and community involvement made the Purim Café '99 one to remember.

The Purim Café was also an opportunity to thank Gilad and Nana in a traditional Habo way. Although this was the only saddening event to occur all day, the extent to which Gilad couldn't stop smiling throughout made things seem not all that bad.

I would like to thank all those involved in the Purim Café as it was a combined Habo effort, this included madrichim, chanichim as well as the ever helpful and obliging P&F of Habo.

The Café was a huge success, and I encourage all that were not able to attend this year to not miss out and come next year.

Leor Karp  
Rosh Tarbut



purim



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ICE SKATING  
ice skating

In order to bring the first Habo semester to an exciting close, Habo organised a "fun for all ages" Iceskating event at Mirrabooka. Not wanting to squander an excellent opportunity for the madrichim to be together, it was decided that the maddies would hold a celebratory picnic. In true Habo fashion the picnic, was fun and late. Also, perhaps to give us an early warning of the up and coming camp weather, it decided to rain or, more to the point, pour and the words "bucket down" come to mind. Unfortunately being in the middle of the open meant that it was rather a long walk to any form of dry shelter and I found myself arriving at the ice-rink, while not being as wet and cold as the ice-rink itself, definitely coming in at a close second.

Although this ranking was not to be held for long, not because I suddenly and miraculously dried out of course, but because the chanichim soon realised that while not falling over, is the proper way to ice-skate, it is definitely not the most fun and we were soon surrounded by a fair amount of wet, cold and happy Habo kids. Most of this falling over was probably caused by the tag game. The madrichim were definitely shown who the champions of the day were, because those of us that entered were all eliminated on the first round, while several of the chanichim managed to hold their own for quite a while. However despite that Habo spirit, the winners were eventually declared to be some of the other people because despite the fact that grace and poise are not required to win, staying upright probably is and that is something that we will have to work on for next year. All in all a fun and successful occasion and I look forward to another one next year.

## chavera maskirut

Chavera Maskirut, meaning friend of the maskirut is a "nice" description of what this tafkid entails. Having an opportunity to serve on the maskiroot this year, has opened my eyes to the 'behind the scenes' and has enabled me to fully experience and appreciate what Habonim Dror does for our youth, community and schools.

Over the last two years, Habonim Dror and Carmel School have been working together to form a bond that is mutually beneficial. Many a time this year Habo have made speeches in assemblies, discussed important issues involving Habo, or just come to see adoring chanachim. Being able to liaise with Carmel School has also widened the potential Habonim Dror has to educate and participate in festive celebrations. Habo has been involved in day camps, preparing and running portions of the day with the main focus on current festivals. It is with utmost pleasure that Habo adds to the atmosphere of the yr 1-4 'day camps'-which happen to be a speciality of ours.

I hope this connection will only become stronger and continue to be important to both Carmel and Habo. The work that we do together, also in accordance with Bnei, can only bring success and new ideas. Hopefully in the future Habo will be a regular feature in the school which will be a fantastic opportunity for us to be proud in our Habo shirts.

Lisa Selwyn



The Schneider family would like to send Shana Tova greetings to every Jewish family.

## winter camp 2000 Machane Chalutz

Winter camp this year was an unbelievable success!! Although we didn't quite reach the record numbers of past Habo camps, we still managed to run out of beds in the Maddies dorm, and lose track of our turnips.

Isolated from the rest of the world for six days and nights at Nanga bush camp, the Habo Chanichim started to change into strange creatures of the night... while all the Maddies tried to sleep there could be heard the quiet rustling of chip packets, lolly wrappers, and the gulping of red cordial. These bizarre beasts could only be tamed with the stringent application of Jewish Zionist education, a pinch of Socialism, and great big helpings of fun.

Despite the best efforts of the kids, even the Maddies enjoyed themselves. We would have preferred a nice, relaxing week away in Club Med.... but everyone kept on insisting on having a Habo winter camp. As strange as it sounds, waking up to a can of shaving cream in your face beats the pants off room service any day.

Now I know why Habo Bogrim are only ever Rosh Machane once, but I wouldn't have missed it for the world.

Sean Cohen

The Maddie formerly known as Rosh Machane, Machane Chalutz, Winter Camp 2000

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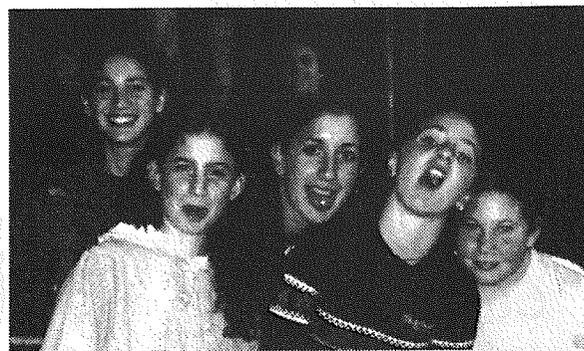
# WINTER CAMP winter camp

OY,  
OY OY,  
OY OY OY OY OY,  
HABO RULES THE CAMPSITE, OY!

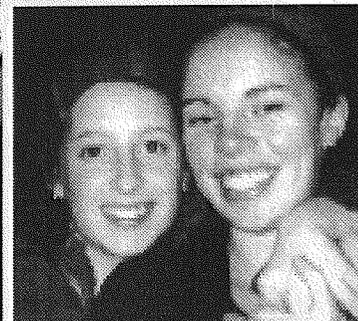
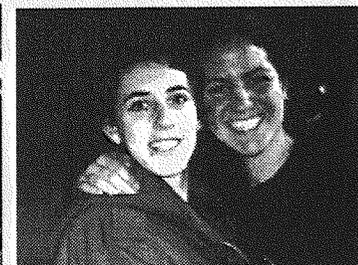
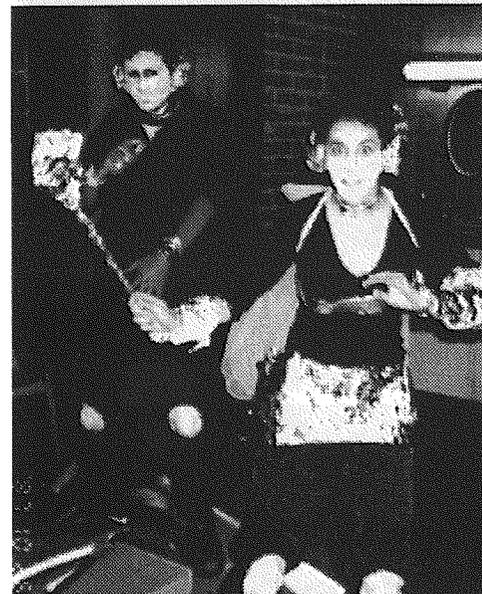
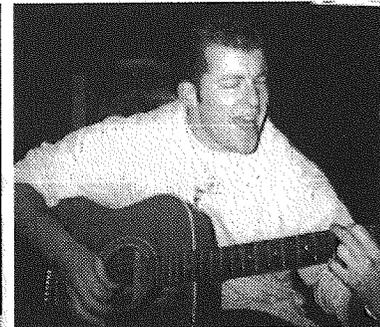
Birthday, Shabbat - yeah, we *really*  
ruled this campsite!

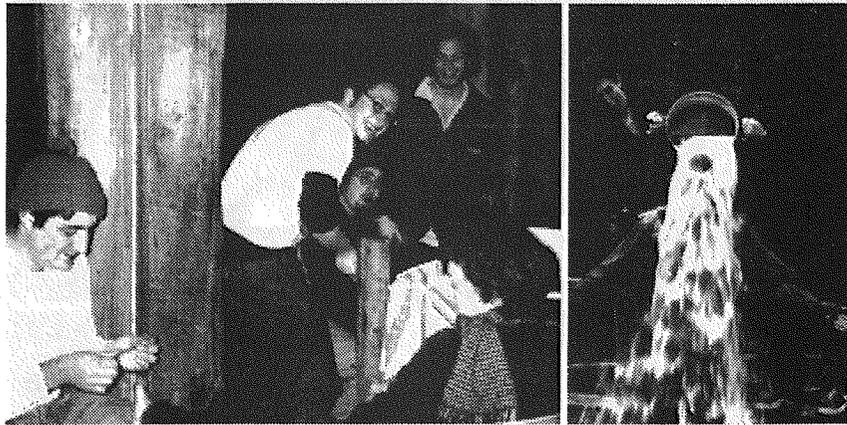
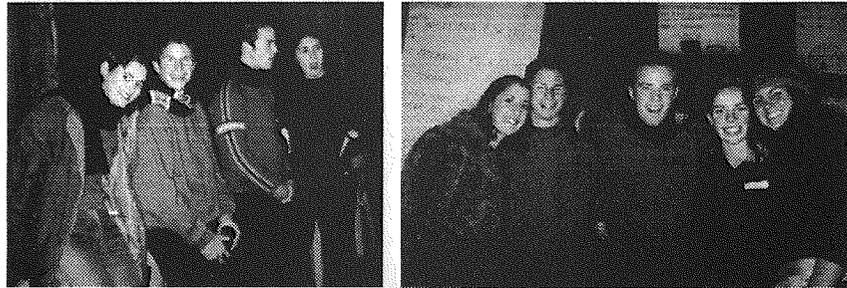


## Machane Chalutz

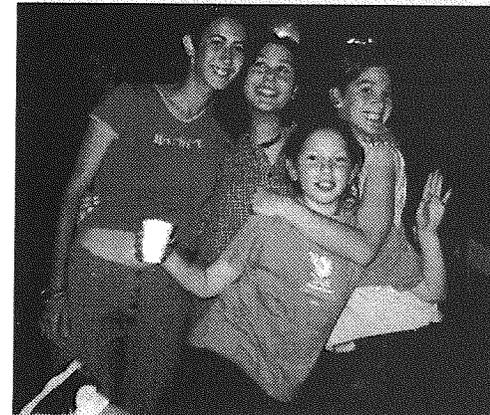
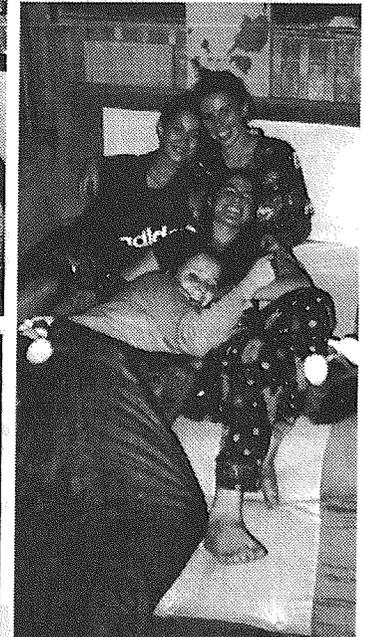


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# JUNIOR SLEEPOVER



*Sleep?  
I don't think so!*

From the word go, it was clear that this night wasn't going to be a SLEEPOver but rather a STAYOver with very little sleep to be had. The chanichim arrived and there was a great vibe buzzing around the Habo rooms. Everybody seemed ecstatic to be away from home for one night filled with fun and excitement.

We quickly got rid of the formalities, like eating, and got straight into the action. The chanichim engaged in a truly unique manoeuvre in which they had to build Jewish settlements amid the constant pressure of the roaming UN officials. One program led to another until it was time to settle down with some videos. Finally, about 5am ... SLEEP, but only for a couple of hours when everyone was woken to a delicious breakfast, Habo style. Then it was time for more fun with a choice of bracelet making, sport and mural painting.

By eleven o'clock, bracelets were made, murals were painted and sport was played. When parents arrived, everyone was on their last legs and its safe to say that they all slept happily ever after.

# SHORASHIM shorashim

Hey all you Shorashim fans, let me hear you clap your hands!

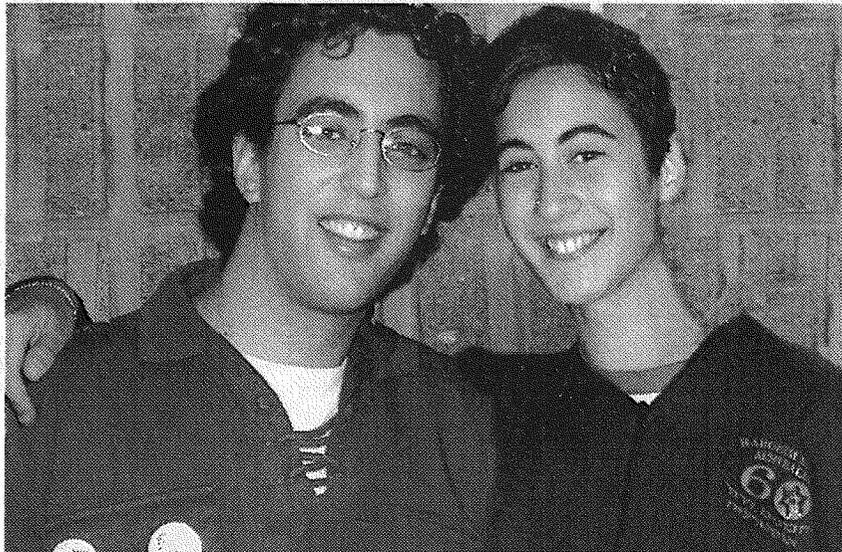
I'd like to start by stating while we are the smallest of the shichvot (in age only), we are definitely the most fun-est of all! So far this year, aside from the other excursions like ice skating, roller skating, car rallies and the like, we've had treasure hunts, game shows, scouting activities and much much more. We even had a live (via satellite via cable via the room next door) TV cross to a local Habo newsroom!

Gul and I have had so much fun joining in with Sivan (who has a brother called Gul), Sophie, Ze'ev, Nathaniel, Lanie, plus any extras along the way, we've sometimes even forgot that we were leading at all!

I cannot go any further without making a special mention of my wonderful co-council Gul Bernstein. As the only madatz'a in Shorashim, and with it just being the two of us, Gul has helped me out no end (and I hope the other way around) and planning becomes a breeze... in short - WE ROCK! Also a big thanks to Jess, Leon, Adam and any other leaders that have stepped in along the way when I've been called to do other Rosh Chinuch things or drive the bus or something. Thanks a lot.

And to the kids of Shorashim, we'll see you next week!!

Lotsaluv *Mike*



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# AMELIM amelim

Another outrageously, sensationally, phenomenally, fantasmagorically successful year for Amelim. Year 2000 has provided us all with a chance to bond as a group while at the same time learn hundreds and thousands of things about each other and Habo.



Guys, keep that Habo spirit and you will keep having more fun than you could possibly imagine. The madrichim wanted to know what the wonderful members of Amelim thought about Habo and we were so impressed that we thought we would tell the world, so here they are:

### I COME TO HABO BECAUSE...:

"... habo is the best and I learn lots of new things everytime. I also see my friends and we play exciting, fun and new games."

"...I need a laugh"

"...I just come"

### "MAN WHO GOES TO BED WITH LITTLE RED SOCKS

"...turns into a tree and gets squashed by a giant"

"...wakes up as a strawberry"

"... wakes up with red chicken pox"

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE HABO GAME?

"Moving

gaga ball"

"Moving

gaga ball"

"Moving

gaga ball,

because

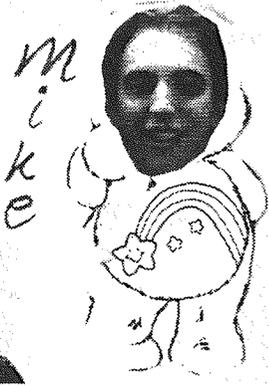
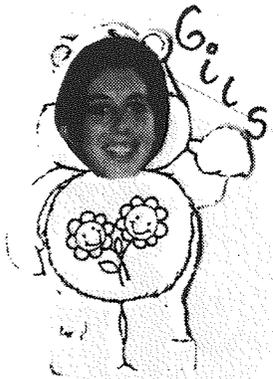
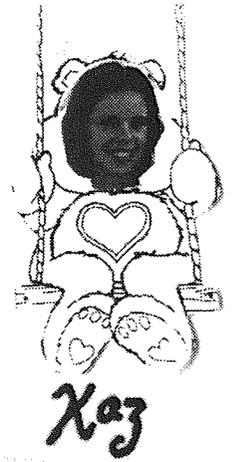
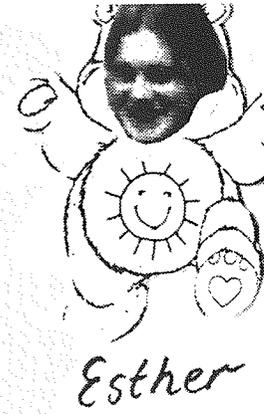
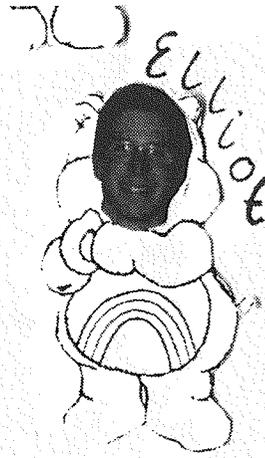
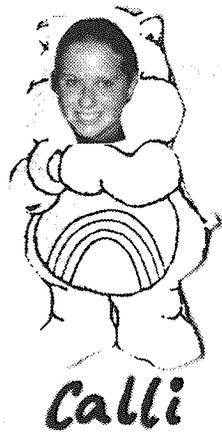
it's a real

whacky game"

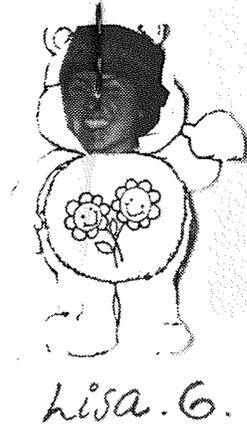
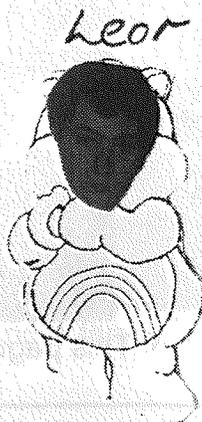
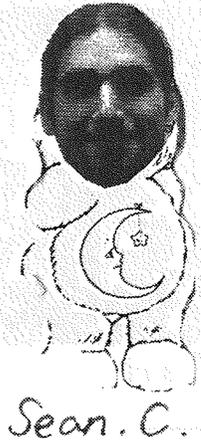
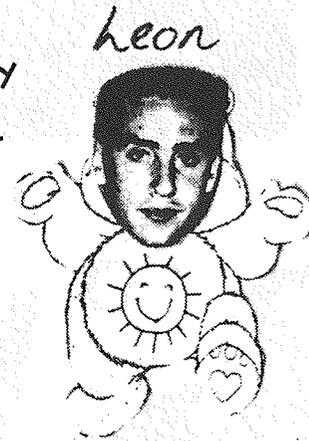
*Adam,  
Paul, Lisa  
and Calli*



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# Maddie\* Care!

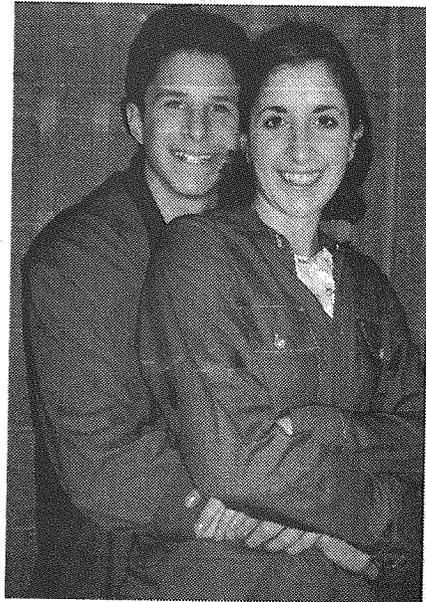


# CHOTRIM chotrim

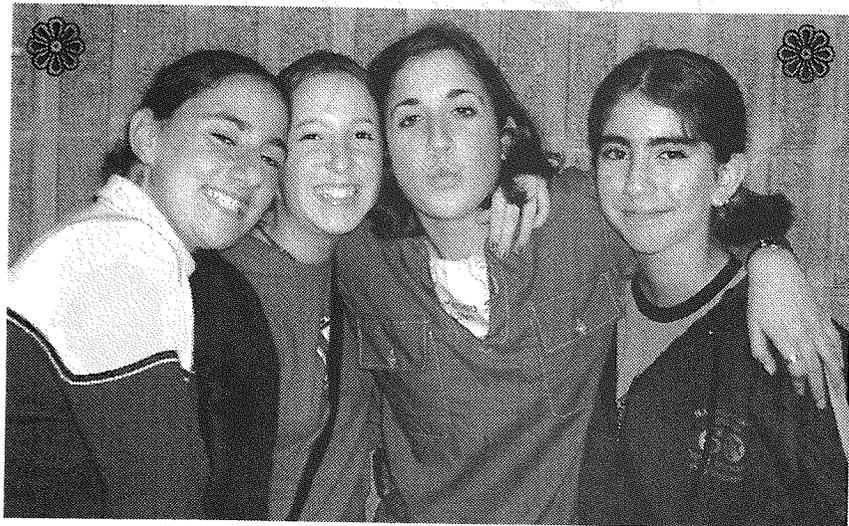
This year Chotrim has bonded to form a lovely but troppo shikvah, with devotion and way too much energy. You're all amazing! We wait for Sundays to see you in your habo shirts with big hugs. We hope you have learned as much from us as we have from you.

Love, your crazy but cuddly madrichim.

Lisa, Elz and Kaz



Chotrim girls are hot to go h-o-t-t-o-g-o,  
aah-oooh so is elliot, aah-oooh so is elliot!!!



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# GUESS WHAT'S COMING UP...



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# SHOMRIM shomrim

What an exceptional group!!

So far there has been an enormous amount of enthusiasm and energy in the group every week and it seems to be growing even more. The Shomrim madrichim started the year with high expectations of the group, but as far as I can see, these have been outdone. We have seen a steady shikva of chanichim come each week, and it's always a lot of fun!

Esther and Mike have also been lucky enough to lead this excellent group this year.

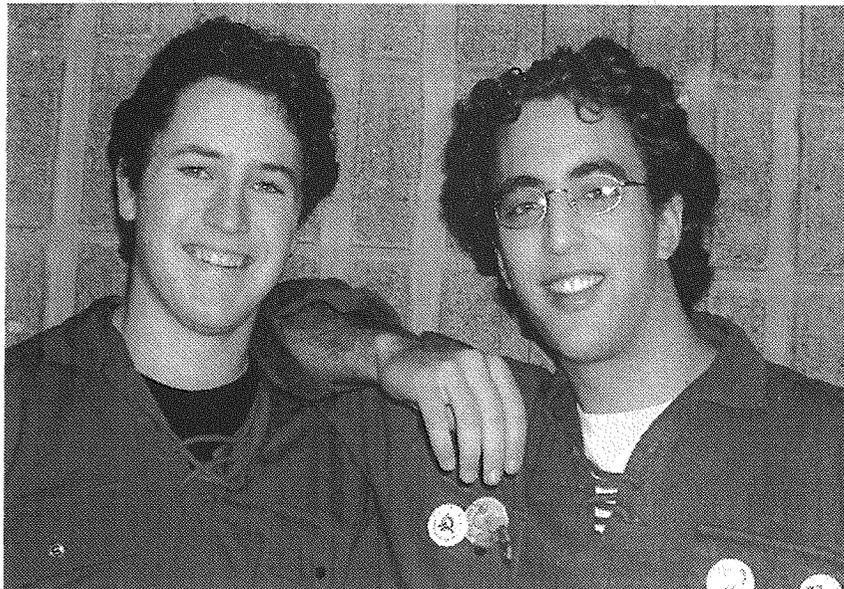
Looking forward to the rest of the year, there is still so much left to do. We have the sleepover and, of course federal camp at the end of the year, so things are just going to get better and better.

As a final note I would like to encourage all year 9s to come along to a meeting and see what goes on, as there is still plenty of time to have more fun. So I am definitely looking forward to what is to come and hope that the year proceeds as well as it has started.

Hope to see all the year 9s out there at Habo soon!!!

**Leor Karp**

Rosh Shomrim



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Contact

**Jeffery Lin**

**JACKSON McDONALD**  
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# BONIM 1

We decided to wait until all the other shikva reports were written to write our own, so that we could seize this as an opportunity to pay out the rest of the movement. Please note the concerted effort we are making to avoid using the F-word (fun) or worse still the G-word (gaga-ball), - 2 things which our shikva has avoided at all costs this year (in large part because one of us is actually scared of the game.) Instead, our shikva has grappled with Jewish and Zionist issues and questions like how to overcome the difficulties of running effective Judaism programs in a pluralist movement; the need for a Jewish state, historically and today; assimilation and biblical and contemporary Jewish attitudes to homosexuality, as well as wider humanitarian problems like environmental destruction, animal and human cruelty and religious persecution. We've strengthened hadracha through looking at the power of the individual and of groups and the responsibilities we have to set a positive "doogma" (example) for others. This has taken us into the world of crusader talk-shows, newly-invented governments, life-size snakes and ladders games, paper-plane-making factories, a crazy day in Northbridge taking photos with sailors, a theatric travel to the Lebanese border with Israel and a timewarp to the Ghettos of Eastern Europe where the Dror movement began and to England where Habonim was set up.

In short, the year has hopefully lead us to question and explore Judaism, Zionism and Socialism and to see how we can come closer to fulfilling our personal beliefs by acting according to them to achieve Hagshama Atzmit ( self -realisation and self - fulfilment.)

The year has been incredibly fulfilling (another F-word) for us as mads and lots of fun! (woops - we said it!)

It's been unbelievably special watching our chanichim develop as incredible madrichim for the younger shikvot and as an unbelievable group themselves. The shikva has doubled in size and commitment over the last 9 months and despite being amazingly close, also seems to be able to make new chanichim feel welcome and included.

Bonim 1 is a very special and unique group and Habonim-Dror is going to be something quite amazing when this group gets back from Israel. (We're a little bit jealous that we had to be their mads rather than co-chanichim.)

Aleh-V'Hagshem.  
With Love, Your Mads,

*Ariella Gild, Sean Goldberg and Esther Levy.*



# BONIM 2

It was with great pleasure that Leon and I had the opportunity to lead such an important group within the Habonim Dror Movement.

Although it sometimes seems that the year 12 Tochnit is solely based around preparing for going to Israel, in truth the year 12's of this year have faced many different issues such as Zionism, Group Dynamics and Decision Making, Political Issues and probably most importantly Hagshama Atzmit - issues which are necessary to establish their beliefs for when they (hopefully) embark on their Israel journey.

Most leaders will tell you that you need good numbers to make a program run smoothly, however Shtilim this year, although low on numbers, gave Leon and me a chance to work on the qualitative aspects of the group and deal with issues one-on-one with the chanichim. We feel that because of this, the group was able to grapple with "aims" at the end of each week, that we set out at the beginning of the year. Any issue that they felt that they did not understand enough about, Leon and I tried to cover and made it our responsibility to ensure that at the end of the day, they were satisfied with their tochnit.

Besides all the nitty gritty of the planning and the daily chinuch, Leon and I would like to wish all the year 12s a lot of success for the rest of the school year, and we will continue preparing these young adults for what will be the best year of their lives.

*Leon and Dave*



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## SHNAT SEMINAR shnat seminar

Shnat Seminar 2000 was held in the lovely outskirts of Melbourne, in the beautiful and tranquil place commonly known as "the bush". The most notable feature of the camp was the absolutely freezing weather, but this was not enough to put a downer on the atmosphere created by the year 12s from Melbourne, Sydney and Perth. This was the first of two seminars which essentially gave the group an opportunity to get to know each other, as well as a time where they would think about which program is most suitable for them, based on the programs run by their leaders. In essence this seminar was about preparation for the year to come.

The Year 12s were given issues and situations that ultimately, they will face next year. Issues such as Decision Making, Group Dynamics, the 2-year Commitment, Current Israeli Political Issues and Hagshama Atzmit, were all part of the seminars agenda.

The Madrichim from Melbourne, Sydney and Perth did a great job to ensure that all aspects of the topics were covered clearly and had a lot of fun in the process.

The second seminar will be held in January next year when we will pick up from where we left off in July, and reunite the group before they embark on their Shnat/Machon '01 experience.

Dave

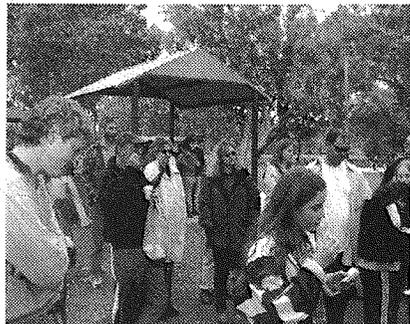
## CAR RALLY car rally

### Keep Screaming - I'm Having Fun!

Usually, driving down the road with three kids in the car screaming at me because I've made a wrong turn is not my idea of a good time, but when its during a Habonim car rally, it's actually great fun!

Armed with our street directory and more than enough navigators, we set out in search of answers to cryptic clues. Along the way there are cries of "you've passed it, go back!" and "no, mum, turn left!" It didn't help that there was a page missing from the street directory, but somehow we managed to find most of the landmarks we had been told to look out for.

You've probably guessed by now that we didn't come first, but if there was a prize for who had the most fun, we would have been the winners. The rally ended up at a park in Midland by the river where the Habonim madrichim were waiting with sausages sizzling away. After a tally of scores, the Baitz and Atlas cars were voted equal winners and shared the first prize of a box of chocolates. We came second last.



We returned home via a much quicker route, all in agreement that this was a well-planned event and a great family day.

Judy Shorrock

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## Socialism - Yesterday and Today

It is hard to debate the monumental role played by the socialist-zionist movement in shaping the State of Israel. The early kibbutzim of the first three aliyot, set up to create and defend the Jewish land, were entrenched in the ideals of labour socialism. So much so that the early founders of Habonim Dror saw the kibbutz as "a focal step in the realisation of its socialist aims." Such aims were based on a supercentralised community in which legal, racial, political, economical and social equality subsided.

The transformation, over the last fifty years, of Israel from a struggling nation to a developed western society rich in the ideals of capitalism, has brought with it a tide of change over the kibbutz movement along with the mindset of its members. The desire for a greater freedom of choice has seen a shift from the supercentralised community that the kibbutz once was, to a family based communal living society. This significant shift leads to a crucial question. Does the present day kibbutz still represent a socialist society and should Habonim Dror maintain kibbutz as "a focal step in the realisation of its socialist aims?"

My answer, as a member of Habonim Dror, is rooted in the very depths of the ideal. Socialism is the expression of the quest for social justice with emphasis placed on tolerance and mutual aid and responsibility. Despite the major changes that have occurred to the infrastructure of kibbutzim, my experience has been that these important ideals are still present. There is an overwhelming sense of community, mutual responsibility and, most of all, social justice. These are the same social values which I emphasise so highly while leading at Habonim. In my eyes tolerance, mutual responsibility and equality are the values which form the basis of peace loving humanity and if I can encourage my chanichim to even contemplate these values and their importance, my two years in Habo would have been worthwhile. So, to answer my own question, despite the widespread changes to the kibbutz movement, the core social values are still present, thus kibbutz remains, in my opinion, as "a focal step in the realisation of OUR socialist aims."

Adam Lin

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## Leading the Leaders

Just after the resumption of Habonim Dror Perth in February, the Perth Maskirut (myself, Mike and Lisa) flew to Melbourne for a seminar with Sharonna Fredericks, one of the guru's of Israel's Hagshama Department. The seminar was attended by Maskirut of all six movements, from both Perth and Melbourne, and spanned a full day.

The seminar tackled contentious movement issues specifically relating to executive bodies, such as how to lead and be role models to your peers, and how to bring pro-activism into youth movements over issues such as the infamous rise to fame of Joerg Haider.

The seminar prepared the Perth Maskirut for what has been an exciting year, and the interaction between maskirut of different movements allowed us to bring original ideas to the Perth Habonim movement.

Leon Schneider



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## P&F REPORT

### p&f report

This year we have had more than our usual number of Farewelcomes, each in their own way epitomising the continuity of Habo. In January, Sue and Tony Sander again generously hosted our traditional Farewelcome, where we welcomed back our returning Shnatties and marvelled yet again at the increase in maturity and enthusiasm that a year in Israel brings. At the same time we farewelled this year's group, small in number but very big in dedication to Habo.

Our second Farewelcome involved the changeover of Shlichim. At the annual Purim Café, which again was a resounding success, we bid a sad farewell to Gilad Ostrovsky, who was returning to Israel for family reasons. In the 18 months that he served as our Shaliach, Gilad impressed everyone with his hard work and dedication to Habo and the Perth Jewish community. Habo and the P&F presented Gilad with a didgeridoo as a memento of his time in Perth, a gift that he greatly appreciated. However, our sadness at losing Gilad was offset with the arrival, in August, of our new Shlichah, Galit Bareket, together with her husband Hagi and their two delightful children, Hadar and Stav. Judging by the drive and enthusiasm already shown by Galit, the future of Perth Habo is in excellent hands.

Our Quiz Night returned, this time on Mothers Day, with a new venue and a new Quizmaster (enthusiastic albeit inexperienced) but the same old wonderful level of support from donors and participants. With a mix of questions aimed at both the younger and older generations, this year's quiz saw a much closer result for the ultimate prize. For the first time ever the Habo tables seriously challenged the "professionals" with the Leaders table finishing a very creditable second. A great time was had by all and the coffers received a healthy boost.

One of our initiatives this year has been to set up a special fund for the eventual replacement of the Habo Bus. Although the current vehicle is still running well, it will inevitably reach a stage where it will need to be replaced. Rather than have to find a lot of money at short notice, we would prefer to put aside small, regular amounts so that when the time comes the impact on our funds will not be so great. To kick off this fund Parents and Friends will shortly be launching a Chocolate Drive. We have obtained a fantastic selection of chocolates from Cadburys that are sure to appeal to everybody's palate, so please support Habo and the P&F by selling as many boxes as you can to all your friends, relations and acquaintances. Of course, you are also allowed to buy for your own consumption.

Just like Habonim itself, Parents and Friends is continually looking for new members to ensure its continuity and to provide fresh ideas and energy. If you appreciate the fun, knowledge and skills your child(ren) receive from Habo or if you admire the responsibility, commitment and contribution to the Jewish community shown by its leaders, joining Parents and Friends will enable you to put something back into this wonderful movement. The commitment is small but the rewards are great, plus you get to meet and mix with a great bunch of people who share your interests in Jewish Youth, Zionism and Habonim Dror.

**Ken and Blanche Polzman**

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## Why People Think We Are Slobs

Or "Habo and the Image Problem"

For years now, Habo Bogrim have tried to grapple with the continued problem of their image, historically being regarded by the general community (apart from most of their relatives, of course) to be uncouth, rebellious, unrepresentable, and not on the bright end of the intelligence scale. Most people have relatives who were (or still are) a part of Habo, and most families support Habo in its community services, but at the same time there has always been, and probably always will be, a barely audible anti-Habo feeling. It's usually drowned out amongst the masses of voices and information that makes up our everyday lives, but when the world quiets down at night you can sometimes hear a few voices chattering away, vigilant in their determination to see Habo leaders exposed for the slobs they are.

This disturbs me.

These voices are not so easily calmed that they need simply be told that Habo has within its ranks such boring, lifeless and intellectual people as engineers, sociologists, accountants, psychologists and journalists. In fact, the actual people in Habo have very little to do with this at all. It has more to do with the impression people have of us, that first ten seconds when a parent glances at a Habo shirt, long hair, and a pierced eyebrow all on the same person may well define the feeling that parent has towards Habo for many years to come. I would dare say that many parents do not send their kids to Habo not because they don't agree with our ideology, nor because they don't want their kids to gain an alternative (read "education outside a classroom") insight into Jewish culture, but mostly because they don't like the look of us. This is a shame. I have been training myself for years to judge a person by their ideas, not their appearance (a value I was taught at Habo), yet sometimes I still find it difficult. I know how hard it can be to look past the (sometimes quite disturbing) exterior, to find a normal person on the inside.

Trust me, they're in there.

Very few people realise what makes a Habo leader (apart from the good looks, charm, etc..), and even less realise how much work actually goes on at Habo (that's right, real work!). On a personal note, I was Rosh Machane for winter camp of this year, which meant I had to organise all aspects of a camp for up to a hundred people, without

actually knowing how many people were coming until they arrived at the campsite (no one ever RSVPs a Habo camp form....we wish you would...please.). The easy response to this is "no big deal, I could organise a camp in my spare time," but very few realise that we have in our community a group of 18 and 19 year olds who are organising and running all these amazing community events with no outside help, no past experience and no knowledge base to work from. Every two years the wheel is completely reinvented (on purpose) by a new group of leaders, each of whom have no idea how the movement ran two years earlier. I am often dumbfounded by members of the community who have held a grudge against a Habo leader for five or more years, and then still expect that same person to be there five years later. Habo works on a system of high turnaround, high inspiration and high energy. The only legacies that remain in Habo are those that are present in the ideology itself.

Habonim Dror was a movement born out of the need for people to help physically build the state of Israel, but it has since developed into much more. Habo members have always been seen as radical members of any community they are a part of, a strange bunch of kids with weird hair cuts and bizarre ideas about living without money. This is often compounded by the "teenage rebel" impression, otherwise known as "There's no way I would let any of my kids associate with you".

There are only a few things you need to know about Habo leaders, in fact these things apply to most people, but we're often not regarded as being a part of "most people".

Habo leaders:

- \* Are ALL around nineteen or twenty years of age.
- \* Are responsible.
- \* All are developing / have developed an ideology that they strongly believe in.
- \* Survive without mummy and daddy.
- \* Are usually studying, working, and running Habo all at the same time.

And most importantly:

Every year since Habo began, its' leaders have single handedly ensured the continuation of the movement by teaching, leading and running camps and activities **ALL BY THEMSELVES.**

I'm a part of it, and sometimes I still find it hard to believe.

(ed would like to suggest with amusement that if anyone still has a yearbook from 1999 they should turn to the "bogrim" page, p24-25. Sean is the one not wearing a suit or ball gown. The only one, in fact. He is also incidentally the only madrich in habo who actually has long hair. Gee, I wonder why people think we're slobs?)

Sean Cohen



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