

Community Briefs

GOLDERS GREEN

Zichron Menachem Haircutting Party

Last Thursday evening 17 girls gathered in the Golders Green Beis Hamedrash, to cut their hair to donate to Zichron Menachem, the charity that supports Israeli children with cancer and their families.

There was a party-like atmosphere, including refreshments and pampering for the girls, who ranged in age from four to 20.

"I was inspired to grow my hair after watching some of my friends grow theirs and donate it to Zichron Menachem," said Mindi Cohen, 12, who donated her hair together with her two younger sisters and collected sponsorship donations in honour of her late grandmother's *yahrtzeit*. "I felt it was important to help others and knew it was something I wanted to do. I love that I was able to do this with my sisters and share the experience with them."

As the pile of donated hair grew, the girls gleefully checked out their new hairdos in the mirror. When they finished, they excitedly showed off their new look to family and friends.

It takes between eight and 10 donations of hair to make one wig. The wigs are then given free of charge to children in the United Kingdom and Israel who have lost their hair as a result of cancer treatment.

Wig-maker Devorah Pariente is Zichron Menachem's partner in the United Kingdom, and she demonstrated to the girls the many hours of skilled work that go into making one wig.

"I helped Zichron Menachem in Israel when I lived there so it was only natural for me to continue working with them when I moved to the U.K. three and a half years ago," she said. "I feel lucky that I get to help people out when they need it most."

Ripple Effect at Federation Rebbetzins' Conference

The Federation of Synagogues arranged a mini-conference for its

Rebbetzins last Sunday morning, bringing together some 25 ladies from a diverse range of shuls for a morning of *chizuk* and practical guidance.

Held at the beautiful Chai Cancer Care centre in Hendon, the conference focused on the theme of "Me, My Family, My *Kehillah*," examining the challenges that the Rebbetzins handle on a daily basis in each of these three spheres, and the ripple effect that experiences in one sphere have on the others.

The morning opened with *divrei pesichah* from Rebbetzin Rena Lichtenstein, who touched upon the many diverse roles played by a Rebbetzin in caring for her husband and children and serving the wider community. Indeed, the first session, led by Mrs. Chaya Spitz, chief executive of Interlink, addressed the subject of "red lines and guiding principles." Mrs. Spitz provided the Rebbetzins with a refreshing new perspective on juggling a busy lifestyle in a different sector altogether. For the second session, Rebbetzin Lopian (formerly of the Yeshurun), Rebbetzin Knopfler (Sinai) and Rebbetzin Fine (formerly of Southgate) came together as a panel to discuss the challenges of raising a family while serving a *kehillah*. They were very ably chaired by Rebbetzin Yael Hamer of Finchley Central. For the final session of the day, Dr. Veronique Berman and Mrs. Carolyn Cohen of Chana gave the Rebbetzins a comprehensive overview of the charity's work and answered a range of questions.

The morning ended with a delicious buffet lunch and a tour of the Chai centre, led by the organisation's chair Mrs. Louise Hager. Rabbi Dovid Roberts, the Federation's Director of Education, who spearheaded the conference, was on hand during lunch to speak to the Rebbetzins about their ideas for future programmes.

Rebbetzin Knopfler commented, "It was an uplifting and educational morning, and very important for the Rebbetzins to exchange ideas and learn from each other."

Rabbi Roberts said, "It is exciting to be part of an organisation that recognises

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Annual Tiferes Yaakov Reception Held in London

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ben Torah.

Fulfilling a long-held of all connected to the yeshivah, Tiferes Yaakov has recently begun the process of relocating to the former Swallow Hotel, which is being refurbished to be a suitable *ach-sanya shel Torah*.

The reception created awareness of the financial responsibilities facing the

yeshivah and allowed all to take part in having a share in the support of hundreds of *bachurim* growing in Torah and *yiras Shamayim*.

Its thousands of alumni, who include local and international Rabbanim, *Maggidei Shiur* and *ehrlische baalei batim* point to their years in Yeshivas Tiferes Yaakov as the jump-start to a lifelong commitment to Torah.



Daniel Morris

Part of the crowd at the reception.



Daniel Morris

Rosh yeshivah Rabbi Ezriel Jaffa (L.) and maggid shiur Rabbi Avrohom Osher Cohen (C.) in conversation with Mr. Leibi Levison (R.) at the Yeshivas Tiferes Yaakov reception on Sunday.



JDN

The Trisker Rebbe (L) at the *chuppah* of his son in London to the daughter of Reb Shalom Aksler (R).