

The
Treasured
הנחמדים



Interview With:

R' Meir Menashe Bodner

Rosh Hakohol

Gateshead Kehilla Kollel was founded over two and half years ago. What do you see as the Kollel's key achievements?

Gateshead has really grown in the last few years. This new Kollel has really opened up the opportunities for new Yungerleit to move back to our amazing Kehilla. It has also opened up a wonderful Beis Hamedrash where so many people of the Kehilla feel comfortable to come and learn. In fact almost half the Kehilla frequent the Beis Hamedrash daily, attracted by the atmosphere, coming from the early hours of the morning until late at night.

The Kehilla Kollel already has almost 40 Yungerleit and it is only looking to grow and serve new Yungerleit and help facilitate their shteiging.

Another benefit I would say, is that this Kollel isn't at all restrictive. It is open to different styles of learning and is there to help the Yungerleit really shteig each in their own derech halimud.

Can you share with us some of your involvement in these developments?

As Rosh Hakohol, I have been involved from the onset, supporting the initiative from behind the scenes. I have developed a very close relationship with the Menahel Reb Zelig Kupetz and the Rosh Beis Hamedrash Reb Benzion Zahn. I work with them in their building of Torah guided by the Rosh

HaYeshiva Shlita.

Whenever I can, I try to encourage Balei Batim to help out financially, as this is no ordinary project. I feel that this is something which is having a huge impact on the entire Torah Jewry of England.

It's been in the press that the Kollel are moving towards opening a new Chaburah for younger avreichim. From your vantage point as Rosh Hakohol, what do you see as the advantages of this for Torah in the UK?

At present, we don't have a BMG style central Mokom Torah for young avreichim in the UK. Lakewood is the ideal example. I have always dreamed of Gateshead becoming that hub like Lakewood is in the US, where hundreds of Yungerleit come and make it their home as a place for their shteiging and now I feel this is starting to happen. The Kehilla Kollel has opened with a vision of creating a Mokom Torah that will become a centre of Torah for the entire UK.

I'm also hearing from many parents across the country with married children, that with rising costs of living and inflated home rentals, supporting their children to live in Eretz Yisroel has become increasingly difficult and nearly impossible. To a degree that for many, it is unfortunately beyond their financial ability. With this new Chaburah, a significant part of the financial burden could be alleviated. The Yungerleit will be able to have the quality of ruchnius that they

would gain from Eretz Yisroel here in the UK, without the costs of sending their children to Eretz Yisroel. As parents we must understand how we can collectively help the Kehilla. Starting the conversation between friends and family, encouraging our children to think about the prospect of such an idea and the opportunities that it presents both beruchnius and begashmius. Helping us and them to understand the importance of the opportunity presented here, so that bisyato dishmayo together we can help remove a significant amount of pressure for so many of us that are struggling.

Do you feel Gateshead has the necessary infrastructure for this style growth?

Definitely! Gateshead is the only place I feel

this can be done. We are blessed with an abundance of very high quality moisdos, and relatively low housing costs. The Kehilla has all the facilities in place to serve the community as well as many people who will take the opportunities to help ensure that the Kehilla will continue to run smoothly.

Obviously, for this mammoth project to materialise, we will need to ensure all the infrastructure like housing and schooling and work for the young wives are all in place. As Rosh Hakohol I am making this one of my highest priorities, and I am certain we will have all this in place for the new Chaburah. ●





Interview With:

Harav Benzion Zahn שליט"א

Rosh HaChaburah

What is unique about the Gateshead Kehilla Kollel?

The aspiration of every Ben Torah is to be completely immersed in his learning, achieving his dream of being “koneh masechtos and sugyos” with the ultimate goal of becoming a Talmid Chochochom.

The Kehilla Kollel is dedicated to put in place everything that is possible both in ruchnius and in gashmuis. Enabling and encouraging yungerleit to excel in their Limud Hatorah well beyond their ambitions.

The Kehilla Kollel sees itself as a service provider for the growing yungerman, ensuring the young Talmid Chochochom is able to achieve gadlus in Torah in an environment tailor made to help his continued aliyoh.

Do you feel the initial goals of those setting up the Gateshead Kehilla Kollel are being achieved and how?

In order to ensure that every yungerman is able to attain gadlus batorah, the Kehilla Kollel makes sure that the yungerleit are detached from any financial responsibilities, with the most minimal involvement in fundraising activities. This is only possible through the mesirus nefesh of the visionary, Reb Zelig Kupetz, who makes this his life's passion, to pave the way for a new generation of gadlus batorah. From the onset, the Rosh Yeshiva put in place that the yungerleit should not be involved in askonus on any level. This has created an oasis of undistract-

ed Limud HaTorah, and the fruits of this can be easily identified.

It's no wonder that the Kollel is well known for its exceptional hasmodoh, driven, motivated yungerleit and a high level of Limmud HaTorah, with many from the chabura doing chazoros and taking farhers on current and previous limudim simultaneously.

What is the vision for the future of the Gateshead Kehilla Kollel?

Two years after the founding of our original Chaburah it was brought to our attention that there is a necessity to create a framework for yungerleit who have sheifos to learn sugyos in Halacha on a high-level.

Harav Efraim Abenson, a well known Talmid Chochochom from Yerusholayim, joined the Beis Hamedrash to create this motivated Chaburah focused on sugyos in Halacha.

Obviously yungerleit have different types of sheifos, some may have learnt by a particular Rebbe and have acquired a certain “Mehalach Halimmud”, which they are looking to develop. Our goal is to provide for every yungerman in the Chaburah to help him achieve his Aliyah.

It is also important to fully utilise the Koach Horabim of Lomdei Torah, to create an unprecedented and vibrant atmosphere of Torah which will generate a ruach conducive for hasmodo and gadlus batorah. Having a Beis Hamedrash with multiple Chaburoes will

be mayrim karno shel torah on all these levels.

You spent two weeks over the past months in EY meeting Yungerleit for the new Chabura. How did you share with them this vision?

Although the idea of bringing large numbers of young yungerleit to the UK was new to many, nevertheless with the Rosh HaYeshiva's encouragement, Reb Zelig and myself travelled to Eretz Yisroel to assess the feasibility of this project. We shared our passion and vision with the yungerleit and we heard from the yungerleit themselves how they see this.

We found that this concept resonated deeply with many English Bnei Torah. They were excited by the idea of coming together to create a vibrant and large hub of Limmud HaTorah in the UK.

The plan was put forward to have options of various chaburos catering for various styles of learning that would maximise every yungermans aliyoh with something new and inviting. Furthermore, having a Beis Hamedrash that will have the capacity to open its doors to scores of Bnei Torah yearly, is something which we found many of our Bnei Torah are passionate about and are eager to be involved in.

So, at present, how do you gauge the success of this game changing mission?

Upon returning from Eretz Yisroel our feeling is that this Chaburah needs to and can happen. There are financial factors which are creating an even greater need for this. Furthermore, our tzibbur of bnei torah

has grown tremendously, so much so that the Oilem HaTorah in the UK now has large enough numbers to create this Mokom Torah,

Just consider if in ten years time we would have here in the UK a Beis Hamedrash of 500 Yungerleit, what a tremendous amount of Torah energy would be generated, think about what type of impact this would have on the general Torah landscape in the UK. A difference would be felt on every individual level!

We also feel that being this is a new concept, encouragement from within our Kehillos would be crucial to empower yungerleit and their families to move ahead with this.

Please share with us a closing message L'Kovod Yom Tov.

I travelled with Reb Zelig the Menahel of Kehilla Kollal to the USA to fundraise for the Kollal. We were zocheh to join the tens of thousands of Bnei Torah attending the Adirei Hatorah event in Lakewood. We walked out of the mammoth Kiddush Hashem with a reinforced clarity of our duty and mission. The greatest asset and treasure Klal Yisroel has is the Ben Torah who sits and learns, day after day zman after zman, sugya after sugya, constantly being Marbeh Kavod Shomayim.

With this in mind Reb Zelig the indefatigable Menahel Hakollal has adopted "Hanechemodim – the treasured" as the guiding principle and core value. Our Yungerleit who lig in lern are truly our greatest treasure and it is our privilege and honour to facilitate their aliyo. ●

מכתב קודש

מאת מרן ראש הישיבה שליט"א

וחתום עליו גם מרן הגרא"י הכהן עהרנטרייא שליט"א

בס"ד, חודש אלול תשפ"ג לפ"ק

לכבוד בני התורה ממדינתנו בכל אתר ואתר שליט"א

מימים ימימה, הרי הוא מקובל בתוך כל הקהילות הקדושות במדינתנו, שהאברכים הצעירים אחר נשואיהן, עוברים לגור בארץ הקדושה את לימודם תוך כותלי הישיבות והכוללים שם ואחר מספר שנים רובם חוזרים ללימוד בכוללים במדינתנו, וכידוע שיש בה תועלת גדולה, כזה שהאברכים ממשיכים לימודם בארץ הקדושה ויגיעה באוירה המיוחדת של הישיבות והכוללים שם.

ועתה, עם הצמיחה הגדולה של הקהילות החרדיות, פה באנגליא, שבלע"ה נתרבו בני התורה במדינתנו באופן נפלא, עמדו כמה עסקנים חשובים, לייסד חברה חדשה פה בגייטסהעד, שבו יוכלו אברכים אלו להמשיך את לימודם כדרך הישיבות בארץ הקדושה.

והזמן נמצא לזה, והנה בשנים האחרונות נתעלה ויקר המחיה הכללי בעולם בכלל, ולאור הנגים בארץ ישראל בפרט, ויש עלייה מובהקת בשכר הדירות בארץ ישראל, ומפני סיבות אלו יש הרבה בני תורה שאין ידם משנת להמשיך לימודם במנוחה כבשנים קדמניות בתוך כותלי הישיבות הקדושות והכוללים בארץ, ועל כן נתעורר הביקוש והצורך להקים מקום תורה באנגליא כדרך הישיבות הקדושות בארץ ישראל מיעד לאברכים הנ"ל.

ובאמת הם הולכים בעקבות בני התורה בארצות הברית, שהרבה מהם נשארים במקומם גם אתר נשואיהן, וממשיכים לימודם בבית מדרש גבוה ועוד ישיבות וכוללים שם.

וכמוכמו, שנכון הדבר שחברה זו יעמוד על האדנים האיתנים של עיר התורה גייטסהעד, שהיא עיר מלאה חכמים ומושימים, שגדלו ונתעלו בתורתם ובתי המדרשים העומרים שם לתפארת.

והרינו ממליץ טוב עבור ענין גדול זה, ודבר בעתו מה טוב, שקמו לעשות דבר לצורך ציבור בני התורה באנגליא, וברכתי נתנה שיצליתו בפעולותיהם החשובים.

הכותב וחתום לכבודו של תורה

גרא"י הכהן עהרנטרייא שליט"א

אשר הוא ראש הישיבה שליט"א

"It's a town of bnei torah, a town which serves bnei torah, which is suitable for bnei torah, the ruach of the town is for ameilus batorah."

"It's a mokom torah. A shtarkeh mokom torah, a mokom of menucha for learning torah with very little disturbances and those who are thinking of coming should takka be mechazek themselves and take the opportunity to come and use the opportunity to shteig ois to become gedoilai torah and marbeitzai torah and manheigai torah in klal yisroel."

ערן ראש הישיבה ונשיא הכולל -
הטאון הגדול רבי אברהם מרביץ שליט"א





“The Roshei Chabura and Yungerleit of the Gateshead Kehilla Kollel have managed to create an island of Eretz Yisroel’dike learning in England, Yungerleit are fortunate to be able to become a part of this moisod. Hatzlocho!”

- Harav Chaim Mordechai Zahn - Rosh Kollel Choshen Mishpot, Manchester



“I have been associated with the Gateshead Kehilla Kollel since its inception. Their ambition to grow Torah to unprecedented heights will Iy”H hugely impact Torah Jewry in the UK and beyond.”

- Dayan Shmuel Simons - London Beis Din



“The Gateshead Kehilla Kollel and their initiatives are a real game changer for the Oilam Hatorah in the UK.”

- Harav Yisroel Meir Greenberg - Rov GGBH, London

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