



# PaLs

The Newsletter for Friends of Phone and Learn

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PaL is dedicated in lasting memory of Sammy Homburger ז"ל



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## Simcha at PaL



PaL tutor Batsheba and Aviva have been PaL partners since 2007. They began learning Parsha and Halacha, and then moved on to learn many other topics. As is often the case, their learning partnership developed into a close friendship.

Batsheba and Aviva remained in close contact even after Aviva made Aliya. Several months ago, Aviva got engaged to Leo. As the wedding was to take place in London, Batsheba and her family were able to actively participate in the Simcha.

PaL was honoured to be able to host a Sheva Brochos for Aviva and Leo and meet their family and friends. Rabbi Ivan Ziskind of JLE, who knows Aviva well, entertained the crowd and spoke beautifully to the couple. Leo's Rabbi, Rabbi Weber who came all the way from Canada for the wedding spoke warmly giving Aviva and Leo sound advice and inspiration for their marriage.

PaL tutor Batsheba commented; "Our PaL partnership has spanned close to a decade and during this time I feel we have both gained so much. It has been a privilege to learn and grow

with Aviva who has become a truly special friend. Watching Aviva start the next step of her life's journey with her husband Leo was a moving experience. Participating in the beautiful PaL Sheva Brochos before they returned to Israel really highlighted how PaL is there to support you every step of the way!"

PaL partner Aviva remarked; "My PaL partner Batsheba quickly became a close friend and someone with whom I could discuss many things as well as a knowledgeable, warm and amazing learning partner. Her family became my second family, and 10 years after we first started learning, all of them were at my wedding. I have learnt so much from her and her family, much of which was life-changing! Batsheba has hopefully given me the tools to teach my own family in the future." ❏





## Race with PaL

**PaL**, maintained a very high profile at the Maccabi GB Community Fun Run this year. The event attracted over 6,500 runners and spectators to Allianz Park in North London. Participants came from across the spectrum of the Anglo-Jewish community, running either 1km, 5km or 10km to raise money for one of the 75 participating Jewish charities.

**PaL**'s stand featured an interactive car racing activity featuring the slogan, 'Race with **PaL** – Power Your Knowledge'. The racing proved to be extremely popular which gave the **PaL** team an excellent opportunity to inform the crowds about the convenient learning opportunities which are available.

**PaL** Trustees, Danny Binstock and Dov Harris each ran 10km, wearing their bespoke **PaL** running outfits and they completed the course in excellent time, belying their reputation as desk-based accountants!

Maccabi GB's Neil Taylor remarked; "It was a pleasure to have **PaL** – Phone and Learn at the Maccabi GB Community Fun Run this year. The **PaL** stall proved to be one of the stand-out features of our charity fair. The event is so much more than a run; it is about community, tzedaka, fun and unity and **PaL**'s presence embodied all these things." 🇺🇸

For those of you that still want to sponsor our runners, the JustGiving page is:

[www.justgiving.com/dannyanddovpal](http://www.justgiving.com/dannyanddovpal)



## Bridging the Gap

Some come back from a gap year in Israel full of excitement about Judaism, equipped to share their learning with others. For others, the year in Israel is just the beginning of their Jewish journey as committed proud Jewish adults.

On their return, many seek opportunities to continue to develop a committed Jewish life.

**PaL**'s Israel Coordinator Abigail Burman has spent much of the past few months meeting over 80 gap year students, explaining the Jewish learning opportunities **PaL** can offer them on their return.

Highlights of this project included a lunch on the Neve Yerushalayim campus, tutor recruitment coffee morning and sushi suppers at seminars including Brovenders, Midreshet Harova and Michlelet Mevaseret Yerushalayim. Teachers and Programme Coordinators were thrilled for their participants to get involved. Miriam Brunner, who teaches at many seminars across Yerushalayim encouraged all her pupils to get involved. Miriam remarked, "**PaL** is a win-win situation: the students that sign up as partners are delighted to be able to continue their learning and equally the tutors gain tremendously from sharing their knowledge. It is a fixed arrangement but also personal and tailor-made to the individual."

Natalie Markiewicz – former **PaL** partner and current madricha for students said "**PaL** is a realistic and practical way to continue Jewish learning which allows students to maintain the inspiration they felt on their gap year."

In the week leading up to Shavuos **PaL** Israel Coordinators R' Chaim and Abigail Burman were attended the Tribe End of Year event which was addressed by Chief Rabbi Mirvis who gave an inspiring talk to over 60 Gap year students encouraging them to get involved in communal life on their return to the UK. **PaL** is thrilled to welcome all returning students on board! 🇺🇸



## NEW! Live @ PaL

**PaL** has recently launched a new series of live broadcasts on Facebook. Using this innovative technology, the first of the short sessions was given by Rebbetzen Joanne Dove on, 'Connecting to G-d in our everyday life' and proved to be extremely popular. We look forward to producing further sessions in the coming weeks.



Facebook live broadcasting is a great way to give a lecture and allow the speaker to interact with the audience. Since these sessions are broadcast online and are available to watch on Facebook afterwards, they are another way to deliver Jewish learning to every Jewish person wherever they are based, in a convenient and flexible way. 🇺🇸

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Phone and Learn (PaL) is a division of Partners in Torah®, USA

[www.partnersintorah.org](http://www.partnersintorah.org), a unique Jewish identity-building initiative committed to fostering unity among Jews of all backgrounds. **PaL** matches Jews who want to know more about their heritage with a friendly, knowledgeable tutor for up to an hour a week of Jewish study and discussion, over the phone.

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