

July 2008

BULLDOZER TEARS THROUGH JERUSALEM

**Magen David Adom
response saves more lives**



On Wednesday 2nd July at 11.55am Magen David Adom received a call about a bulldozer on Sarei Yisrael Street, Jerusalem, which was dangerously racing down the street, hitting passers-by, vehicles and overturned a bus. Magen David Adom forces rushed to the scene and a multi casualty incident was declared, as there were many wounded victims in three different locations.

Within eleven minutes 41 emergency Magen David Adom ambulances arrived on the scene accompanied by 125 medics. Simultaneously, Magen David Adom blood services supplied 50 blood units to hospitals.

Magen David Adom Director General, Eli Bin, arrived on the scene and took charge helping Magen David Adom teams to treat and transport nearly 50 victims.

At a debriefing meeting called immediately after the scene had been cleared, Minister of Health, Yaakov Ben Yizri, commented, "Once again Magen David Adom has proven that it can do it all – in the shortest possible time – arriving with tens of ambulances at the scene. There is no doubt that Magen David Adom saves many lives."

The cost to Magen David Adom for only this attack was in the region of £35,000.

Co-Chair's update



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the first Young Patrons newsletter. When we first became involved some four years ago, we thought that Magen David Adom (MDA) was just about ambulances, but we have learned so much. Through these newsletters you too will learn more about this wonderful organisation which is, without a doubt, the best medical emergency and blood service in the world.

Young Patrons, launched at last year's Young Magen David Adom Masquerade Ball, is aimed at those who are more established in their careers, have settled down in their personal lives and perhaps no longer attend all Young Magen David Adom events, but still wish to be informed about Magen David Adom and donate.

We already have over 30 people who are contributing £500 or more a year to support Magen David Adom through our Young Patrons scheme. Of course we would love to push this figure up to 100 within the next year. So please, if you do know of anyone who may want to be involved, please put them in touch.

Last month an ambulance was dedicated in the name of Young Magen David Adom to the people of Sderot. As we all know the situation in Israel can change from one day to the next, but one thing is for certain – the people of Israel will always need MDA, in times of war and in times of peace.

Please help us to help Magen David Adom and the people of Israel.

David Gross & David Kahtan
Co-chairs Young Patrons

Chief Executive's update



In the last few months Magen David Adom's brave medics have had to react twice to the aftermath of terrorist attacks. The Merkaz Ha-Rav Yeshiva in Jerusalem where Magen David Adom were first to arrive at the scene and went inside immediately, at great risk to themselves, well before the terrorist was dealt with by the police. 6 students were murdered and dozens injured. On 2nd July an Israeli-Arab drove a Bulldozer through one of the busiest streets in Jerusalem causing carnage. Out of the 48 casualties, 3 were killed.

A large number of ambulances and medics were dispatched to both attacks costing approximately £35,000 for each attack.

We, in the UK, are proud to be associated with the most efficient emergency medical service in the world. Many lives are saved by the marvellous Magen David Adom medics.

Fortunately, Young Magen David Adom plays such an important role in supporting the lifesavers. With such supporters 'the future is bright, the future is Young Magen David Adom'.

Eli Benson
Chief Executive

Future Events

August

4th August – YMDA in the Park – Primrose Hill
31st August – Football in the Media –
Panel Discussion featuring Graeme Le Saux,
The Daily Telegraph's Henry Winter and more

September

1st September – Young Patron's Reception
with the Israeli Ambassador
26th September – Friday night dinner

December

XX December – Young Magen David Adom Ball

Young Magen David Adom dedicates an ambulance to the people of Sderot



Committee members are joined by Magen David Adom paramedics in Sderot in order to hand over their ambulance

Beach Party Raises £6,000 For Magen David Adom



Young Magen David Adom celebrated Israel's 60th Anniversary 'on the beach' and raised £6,000 in the process. The venue was Graphic in London's Golden Square. Although it was not quite Tel Aviv, the bar was decked out with surf boards, beach balls, buckets and spades with waitresses wearing straw skirts weaving around the palm trees to serve cocktails from coconuts.

Event organiser and Young Magen David Adom Co-Chair Daniel Geey said, "Our party really caught people's imaginations and where else to celebrate the past 60 years than 'on the beach', whilst raising significant funds to help Magen David Adom save more lives in the process."

Young Magen David Adom Mission returns



Committee members of the Young Magen David Adom group recently returned from a mission to Israel in which they took in first-hand the life-saving work of Israel's medical emergency and blood service.

Visiting the length and breadth of the country and taking in six stations in six days, they saw for themselves how Magen

David Adom is non-discriminatory, treating all of Israel's citizens with the best medical care and attention regardless of ethnicity. Committee members visited the Magen David Adom station in Sachnin – the first Magen David Adom station in an Arab town.

Participants also met with paramedics who deal with the barrage of missile attacks in Sderot and it was there that they dedicated the Young Magen David Adom ambulance. Poignantly, the keys were handed to Israeli-Arab medic, Said Al-Finish.

Other highlights included a trip to see Magen David Adom helicopters at Poriya Hospital, and the committee took part in an emergency resuscitation course at the Ramat Gan Station.

Young Magen David Adom Co-Chair Harry Thwaites said, "We felt the trip gave the committee a real 'hands on' feel for current Magen David Adom activities, and see close-up how Magen David Adom is saving more lives."