



B'NAI B'RITH PREVIEW

Mazal Tov to Eretz Yisrael on its 71st Birthday!

Message from the President: The Budget

Last week the Federal Treasurer, Josh Frydenberg, presented his budget to Parliament to much acclaim. Josh is of course a member of our tribe, but is not yet a member of B'nai B'rith. We may try to rectify this following the election, regardless of which way it goes.

The budget presentation made me think of our financial situation in BBVic. We usually discuss this only at our Executive meetings or at the Victorian B'nai B'rith Council (VBBC), but I think all members should have some awareness of our financial position.

Our income for our central office organisation comes primarily from the interest earned from the sale of the Hotham Street Lodge Home in November 2010, plus the sale of an adjacent flat and membership fees. These annual membership fees from our 400 members contribute only 11% of our income (about \$30,000 for an expenditure of \$270,000 pa). Our main expenses are for rent, office overheads and staff wages. As bank interest on our investments is only 3.5% on average, our expenditure is now greater than our income (by nearly \$40,000 last financial year). Does this matter? Views vary, but if we want to survive we need to spend more on marketing, project support and the ever rising cost of doing business. The VBBC is now looking at ways we could increase our income. Options are to fundraise or to change our investment strategy or apply for grants and philanthropic support. We do not want to increase membership fees as quite a number of our elderly members are now on pensions and have told us that they cannot absorb fee increases. We'd be interested in members' views on what to do - tell your Unit Presidents so that they can share your views at the VBBC meetings. (Donations to BBVic are unfortunately not tax deductible, but are very welcome).

Other things to report on briefly are:

The Israeli Ambassador's event was very successful, even without the Ambassador. He was ably represented by his deputy Ron Gerstenfeld whilst Mark Sofer had to fly back to Israel as his father had died. We conveyed our condolences to him and his family.

The 'In One Voice Festival' in Elsternwick was held in brilliant sunshine and gave us a chance to showcase our projects. Similarly, Eva Rathner's birthday was a chance for us to thank her for 50 years of contribution to the community and to fundraise for our B'nai B'rith projects.

Courage to Care held a hugely successful book launch and our Fellowship Concerts continue to delight elderly people living at home or in aged care facilities. See photos in the Jewish News.

We are about to launch a publicity campaign on three new projects, aiming at new members and participants: A Current Affairs discussion series, the Click and Connect project and an Environmental Sustainability program (see page 9).



Don't forget also three important community events next month: The BBVic Menorah Awards on 5th May, Yom Hazikaron commemoration for fallen Israeli soldiers and victims of terror on 7th May and Yom HaAtzmaut is on 9th May. Finally, have a wonderful, joyful and meaningful Pesach.

Benny

Benny Monheit

MAJOR BBVic EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wednesday 1 MAY - 7:30pm JCCV Yom Hashoah Commemoration @ Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University Clayton. Tickets \$20. Call JCCV office: 9272 5566.

Sunday 5 MAY - 7:30pm BBVic Menorah Awards. Recipients are: Lindy Spicer, Greg Blashki, John Hillel & our very own Barbara Lewis. Guest Speaker: Hon. Prof. Howard Nathan AM QC.

Tuesday 7 MAY - 7:30pm Zionism Victoria Yom Hazikaron Commemoration @ Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University Clayton. Free admission.

Thursday 9 MAY - 4:00-9:00pm Zionism Victoria Yom Ha'atzmaut Festival @ Caulfield Racecourse. Free admission.

Tuesday 4 JUNE - 7.30pm BBVic Speakers Forum: "Jews, Genes & Cancer".
Speakers: Prof. Martin Delatycki (Medical Director of the Victorian Clinical Genetics Service) & Jane Tiller (Genetic Counselor) from Jene Screen. More info coming out shortly.

BBVic Showcase & Art Competition Registrations NOW OPEN!

Registrations are now open for the BBVic Showcase, fostering Jewish musical talent (formerly the Eisteddfod) and the Youth Art Competition. Information and registration forms can be found on the BBVic website:

Showcase: www.bnaibrith.org.au/our-projects/showcase

Art Competition: www.bnaibrith.org.au/our-projects/artcomp

INDEPENDENT LIVING RETIREE ACCOMMODATION FOR A COUPLE @ B'nai B'rith Parents' Home

- Bright, spacious and attractive!
- 2 Bedroom **Ground Floor** Apartment in North Caulfield
- Heating and Cooling
- Security Building plus personal emergency alarm
- Resident Caretaker 24/7
- Close to Caulfield Park, tram and shops
- Modest Ingoing Donation and monthly maintenance
- For details, contact council@bbvic.org



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BnaiBrithVic



bbvic.org



council@bbvic.org



03 9523 0888

RAOUL WALLENBERG UNIT

Co-President: Simone Markus

Co-President: Jacqui Dinor Corry

Secretary: Minnie Kahan

Preview: Josh Kahan



rwu@bbvic.net

What's on in May:

Tuesday 14 7.30pm **Israel and the Jewish World.** Speaker: Jeremy Stowe-Lindner, Principal of Bialik College, on the topic "The Challenges and Chances for Jewish Students at Jewish Schools".

Tuesday 21 12:00pm **Programming**, 3:00pm **Schmooze**, 7:30pm **Executive Meeting**.

Sunday 26 1:00pm **Lunch.** Book before Friday 24th.

Coming up in June:

Tuesday 4 7.30pm. **BBVic Speakers Forum: "Jews, Genes & Cancer".** Speakers: Prof. Martin Delatycki (Medical Director of the Victorian Clinical Genetics Service) & Jane Tiller (Genetic Counselor) from Jene Screen. More info coming out shortly.

Sunday 23 2:00-5:00pm **RWU invites all units to our film afternoon. Film: BRASSED OFF.** Fundraiser for Israel Commission - \$20 includes sumptuous afternoon tea. Reservations essential.

Photos from RWU's Bus Trip to Warburton 26/03/19

(For more photos, visit our Facebook page: @BnaiBrithVic)



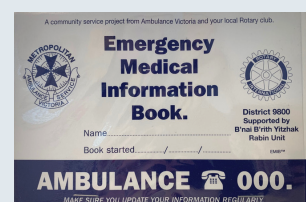
Thinking of you: We wish a speedy recovery to all those who have been ill. If you or a fellow Wallenberg member is not well and would like a friendly phone call or visit, please contact us.

Emergency Medical Information Booklet

This is available from the Office at a cost of \$2.

The Ambulance Service together with Yitzhak Rabin Unit and Rotary have combined to help save precious time which is frequently lost when Paramedics scout a house to establish the patient's current medication. For only \$2 a magnetized booklet filled in, kept up to date and put on the fridge will help save lives.

Can be purchased at the BBVic Office or for more information contact 9523 0888.



HATIKVAH UNIT

President: Paula Messer

Vice President: Evelyn Moszkowicz

Preview: Judith Steinberg



hatikvah@bbvic.net

Still to come in April:

Thursday 25 10:30am Anzac Day Walk, lunch and informal regular meeting. As this is during Pesach all food needs to be suitable for Pesach.

What's on in May:

Sunday 5 7:30pm **BBVic Menorah Awards**. Recipients are: Lindy Spicer, Greg Blashki, John Hillel & our very own Barbara Lewis. Guest Speaker: Hon. Prof. Howard Nathan AM QC.

Sunday 26 8:00pm **Regular Meeting**. Guest speaker Dr. Glen Chandler. The topic of her talk is: "Foreign Aid, Human Rights and Developments." Dr. Chandler has worked as a freelance consultant in foreign aid for 15 years, spending most of that time in various countries in Asia (Indonesia, Vietnam, China, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and South Africa).

Coming up in June:

Sunday 2 10:00am-12:30pm **Calico Dolls**.

Tuesday 4 7.30pm **BBVic Speakers Forum: "Jews, Genes & Cancer"**. Speakers: Prof. Martin Delatycki (Medical Director of the Victorian Clinical Genetics Service) & Jane Tiller (Genetic Counselor) from Jene Screen. More info coming out shortly.

Sunday 30 8:00pm **Regular Meeting**. Details next month.

MELBOURNE MITZVAH LODGE

President: Giora Hoffmann

Preview: Ron Sack



mitzvah@bbvic.net

Still to come in April:

Tuesday 30 8:00 pm **Executive Meeting**.

What's on in May:

Sunday 5 7:30pm **BBVic Menorah Awards**. Recipients are: Lindy Spicer, Greg Blashki, John Hillel & our very own Barbara Lewis. Guest Speaker: Hon. Prof. Howard Nathan AM QC.

Monday 6 8:00pm **Programming**.

Wednesday 8 7:30pm **Regular Meeting**. Speaker will be Jane Tiller, lawyer and genetic counselor. Her topic will be: "How genetic screening in the Jewish Community will save lives". Dr Agnes Bankier will introduce our speaker.

Monday 20 7:30pm **Book Club**.

TBA Mameloshen.

'MAKING A DIFFERENCE' - Funds raised support Jewish VCE students (from low income families) at Independent Jewish & State Schools. If you would like to make a donation, please email: devorahz@zmood.net or post to Making A Difference, B'nai B'rith Victoria, 306 Hawthorn Road, South Caulfield Vic 3162

YITZHAK RABIN UNIT

Co-President: Leon Nissen

Secretary: Brian Schauer

Preview: Eleanor Aghion



yrub@bbvic.net

Still to come in April:

- Tuesday 16** 7:30 pm **Gesher Unit Executive Meeting.** Our Executive Committee members are invited.
- Saturday 20** 7:00pm **Pesach Second Seder.** Places are limited, please contact yrub@bbvic.net to confirm your attendance and discuss your contribution to the festivities.
- Monday 22** 2:00-5:00pm: **Easter Holidays Pesach Cooking Demonstration** with Stephen Shmideg.
- Sunday 28** **Film Night** cancelled.
- Sunday 28** 8:00pm **Unit Akiba Regular Meeting - Jewish Cultural Enrichment Program.** Giants of Psychoanalysis: Sigmund Freud and Melanie Klein.

What's on in May:

- Sunday 5** 7:30 pm **BBVic Menorah Awards.** Recipients are: Lindy Spicer, Greg Blashki, John Hillel & our very own Barbara Lewis. Guest Speaker: Hon. Prof. Howard Nathan AM QC.
- Monday 6** 7:45 pm **YRU Executive Committee Meeting.**
- Sunday 19** 6:00pm **Combined Meeting of YRU & Gesher Unit.** Contact yrub@bbvic.net to confirm your attendance, get address and advise her of food you will bring to share.

Coming up in June:

- Monday 3** 7:45 pm **YRU Executive Committee Meeting.**
- Tuesday 4** 7.30pm **BBVic Speakers Forum: "Jews, Genes & Cancer".** Speakers: Prof. Martin Delatycki (Medical Director of the Victorian Clinical Genetics Service) & Jane Tiller (Genetic Counselor) from Jene Screen. More info coming out shortly.
- Sunday 23** 7:30-9:30pm **Gesher debate against Toastmasters** with Sue Newman as one of the participants.

B'NAI B'RITH RAMBLERS

Chair: Vardit Sacks-Davis

Secretary: Tania Tobias

Preview Secretary & Mail Out: Judy Winikoff

Treasurer: Irena Blonder



enquiries@bbramblers.org.au

What's on in May:

- Sunday 5** Morning. **SOMW** to Masons Falls in Kinglake.
- Wednesday 22** Morning. **11km walk** from Camberwell through Deepdene and Kew to Fairfield Park.
- Sunday 26** Morning. **SOHW.** It will be the Two Bays Walking Track in Arthurs Seat State Park.

UNIT AKIBA

Co-President: Rosa Schattner

Co-President: Helen Fisher

Secretary: Annette Gladwin

Preview: Henry Gladwin



akiba@bbvic.net

Still to come in April:

- Sunday 28** 7.00pm **Executive Meeting**
 Followed by 8:00pm **Regular Meeting**. This will be another session on the 'Jewish Giants' series for the Jewish Cultural Enrichment Program. This particular program will be on two giants of psychoanalysis, Sigmund Freud and Melanie Klein. VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US.

What's on in May:

- Sunday 5** 10:50am **A 1½ hour laneway walk in the city**. Join us for a leisurely stroll as we explore and learn about the history and meaning of many of the city sites/sights.
- Sunday 5** 7:30 pm **BBVic Menorah Awards**. Recipients are: Lindy Spicer, Greg Blashki, John Hillel & our very own Barbara Lewis. Guest Speaker: Hon. Prof. Howard Nathan AM QC.
- Thursday 16** 8:00 - 9:30pm **The Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club**. Karen Neumann will lead a discussion on the life of Heinrich Heine, with a special focus on his 'Jewishness'. The evening will include a selection of readings of Heine's poems and a vocal concert featuring some of his works put to music. NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.
- Sunday 19** 7.00pm **Executive meeting**
 Followed by 8:00pm **Regular meeting**. Our inspiring guest speaker will be Debra Korman, who is involved in a variety of community projects. She helps organise a weekly food van with 80 volunteers from her synagogue Kehilat Nitzan and, in conjunction with the Father Bob Maguire Foundation, they feed and offer support and friendship to the disadvantaged in Port Melbourne.

Coming up in June:

- Saturday 1** 8:00pm **Theatre Night – "Kinky Boots"** presented by the CLOC Musical Theatre Group. Book your own tickets online at www.cloc.org.au. Dinner beforehand in Acland Street.
- Sunday 2** 2:30pm **Activities Planning Meeting**.
- Sunday 16** 6:45pm **Executive meeting**, 7:45pm **AGM and Regular meeting** and then 8:00pm **Jewish Cultural Enrichment Program presentation**. This will feature the next instalment in the 'Jewish Giants' series, where Peter Schattner will speak about the life and times of Hannah Arendt. VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US.
- Saturday 29** Film and hot dog night.



Travelers To Israel!



Any members intending to travel to Israel who can take a 500g pack of glasses frames for the Re-Specs Project - please contact the BBVic office.

A Re-Specs representative in Israel will arrange collection from you on arrival. You will be performing a great mitzvah as the frames get recycled to provide glasses for the financially disadvantaged, currently struggling without corrective eyewear.

GESHER UNIT

President: Karin Zafir

Vice President: Sue Moskowitz

Preview: Karin Zafir



gesher@bbvic.net

What's on in May:

Sunday 5 7:30 pm **BBVic Menorah Awards.** Recipients are: Lindy Spicer, Greg Blashki, John Hillel & our very own Barbara Lewis. Guest Speaker: Hon. Prof. Howard Nathan AM QC.

Sunday 19 6:00pm **Dinner get together for members of Gesher and Yitzhak Rabin Units.**
Bring a plate to share. RSVP 12 May.

Coming up in June:

Tuesday 4 7.30pm **BBVic Speakers Forum: "Jews, Genes & Cancer".** Speakers: Prof. Martin Delatycki (Medical Director of the Victorian Clinical Genetics Service) & Jane Tiller (Genetic Counselor) from Jene Screen. More info coming out shortly.

Sunday 23 7:30-9:30pm **Debate against Maccabi Toastmasters.**

Sunday 30 8:00am-4:00pm **Bunnings sausage sizzle.**

And then...

Sunday 7 7:00pm **Installation.** Entertainment from David Rothberg and Sharon Mattatia.

July

25 - 27 Proposed weekend away at Vibe Marysville.

October

Fundraising Trivia night postponed to 10 November.

Photos from Gesher's Purim Party! (Visit our Facebook page for more photos: @BnaiBrithVic)



CHAVERIM GROUP

Chairperson: Antony Adelman

Secretary: Rebecca Grinblat

Preview: Antony Adelman



BBVic Chaverim
Facebook group

For information on Chaverim activities, visit the BBVic Chaverim Facebook group or contact Antony.



OUR EXHIBITION IN HAMILTON

Over 800 students from schools in Western Victoria attended our very successful exhibition. Our local hero was recognised as an Upstander. Angus (see photo) volunteers at his local church with disabled people, participates in Taekwondo classes and helped organise the "Youth-a-Con" events to encourage local youth to come to community events. Angus, the son of sheep and cattle farmers, at 14 is a fine example of being an Upstander. His words sum up Courage to Care:



"I am astounded at what the Courage to Care session was like. It was nothing like what I expected. The way the morning progressed was perfect. The introduction was well read, portraying what the organisation was about. Then the Holocaust survivor, Judy was incredible. The story she told touched many and gave everyone a view of what WWII was like and the sort of horrible things Hitler was doing to Jewish people. Then the interactive board tour was hugely informative of the people that stood up to the wrong. Finally, the group time towards the end was amazing, the way the Courage to Care leaders compared every-day comments and actions to things that have happened in the past and explained how what we do and say can be offensive towards others."

"Thank you very much Guy and others at Courage to Care that work behind the scenes. The session was amazing and I hope that you are able to run for many years to come and are able to show other people what it means to have the courage to care."

OTHER EXHIBITIONS 2019:

1. **Shepparton.** We are visiting 7-28th June and already have 986 bookings across 13 schools.
2. **Warragul.** We will be in Warragul in August.
3. **Alliance Francais.** We have a wonderful opportunity to showcase our program in late July and welcome your ideas and contact information on anyone who would be interested in attending to find out about our work.

EVENTS:

In One Voice 17th March. We enjoyed a busy day with many people dropping by to say hello.

Book Launch Sunday 31st March. Julie Meadows' second anthology of 22 remarkable stories was launched with just under 400 attendees. Nearly 300 books were sold on the day. Both volumes are now on sale from our office.



Pictured: Rachael Kohn and Julie Meadows



Volunteer Thank You Morning Tea, Tuesday 2nd April. Over 30 volunteers attended our first Volunteer Morning Tea at our new premises. This was a lovely opportunity to get together and exchange ideas about future activities. It was so much fun we are doing it again in July!

Pictured: Morning Tea organisers Eva Rathner and Barbara Wolfson

Interested in volunteering or hearing more details about our work? Give us a call on 9533 0955

Resurrection of the BBVic Environment Group

If you are a long term B'nai B'rith member, you may remember that in 1997 Kathy Deutsch and Fairlie Nassau established an environmental group within B'nai B'rith Victoria. According to Fairlie, her group was thought of by others in those days as 'harmless nutters'. They advocated silly ideas such as using non plastic bags at supermarkets, recycling household goods as much as possible, installing rainwater tanks and walking to meetings as often as possible.

Naturally the Preview newsletter in July 2012 reported: "Sadly we advise all BB members that BBEG has closed down with any leftover funds being donated to the JNF Environment Fund for the Zelman Cowen Memorial Forest". These BB members were pioneers who were ahead of their time.

Climate Change and much greater environmental damage awareness has made all this a 'hot issue' again. So on 13th March 2019 a small group, consisting of Monica Petterson, Evelyn Flitman, Benny Monheit and our office staff Frances and Gaby met and decided the time is right to restart the BBEG in partnership with the Jewish Ecological Coalition (JECO). Fairlie was unable to attend that meeting, but showed her support. The aim for the group is the same as before: To introduce environmental issues to B'nai B'rith, then to the Jewish community and then to the wider community.



So what can you do, starting at your home? Here are 3 ideas:

1. Reducing and eliminating, where possible, single use plastic in your home.
2. Try not to use cling film – instead use beeswax wraps to cover open containers or wrap food.
3. Turning up the temperature on your thermostat when you use air conditioning, and turning down your thermostat when you use heating. Heating and cooling account for up to 48% of home energy consumption. Ideally set your winter heating to between 17 – 19 degrees.

Looking beyond your home, Beth Weizmann Community Centre has been given a government grant to establish a community garden within its property. BBVic has been invited to participate in setting this up. We will need help. If you are interested in any of these projects, please contact the BBVic office on 9523 0888.

Eva Rathner's 80th Birthday Celebration

BBVic President Dr Benny Monheit hosted a big birthday bash for BB stalwart Eva Rathner, not only to celebrate her 80th birthday, but to thank her for 50 years of service to B'nai B'rith and other community service organisations. More than 150 people – family, friends, fellow BB members – attended the Sunday afternoon affair and enjoyed the convivial atmosphere, the food and the chance to discover previously undisclosed details of Eva's early life. Dr Tony Weldon, Chair of BB Courage to Care – of which Eva is a regular volunteer – recited a poem written specially for the occasion. (Space and literary considerations prevent its publication here.) Dr Monheit presented Eva with a Certificate of Recognition. Eva (for once) was lost for words.



GALLERY

BBVic Speakers Forum 24/03/19

Guest Speaker: Mr Ron Gerstenfeld, Israel's Deputy Chief of Mission to Australia

Entertainment: singer Vered Harel & accompanist Tamara Vasilevitsky



In One Voice 17/03/19



Raoul Wallenberg Unit's Musical Trivia Night



Purim Celebrations at the BBVic Office 21/03/19



Melbourne Mitzvah's Kulture Klub



Akiba's March Regular Meeting with speaker, Minna Lederberger



May 2019						
◀ April						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
MARK IN YOUR DIARIES: Tuesday 4 June: 7:30pm BBVic Speakers Forum @ Beth Weizmann			1 JCCV Yom Hashoah Commemoration (evening)	2 YOM HASHOAH 	3 Candle Lighting: 5:13pm 	4 Shabbat Ends: 6:11pm
5 Akiba City Laneway Walk Ramblers SOMW Menorah Awards (evening) 	6 YRU Exec Mtg Melb Mitzvah Programming	7 Zionism Victoria Yom Hazikaron Commemoration (evening)	8 YOM HAZIKARON  Melb Mitzvah Reg Mtg	9  YOM HA'ATZMAUT Zionism Victoria Community Festival	10 Candle Lighting: 5:06pm 	11 Shabbat Ends: 6:04pm
12 Mother's Day	13 Preview Deadline	14 RWU Israel & Jewish World	15	16 Akiba Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club VBBC Mtg 	17 Candle Lighting: 5:00pm 	18 Shabbat Ends: 5:59pm
19 Akiba Exec & Reg Mtg YRU & Geshet Combined Mtg	20 Preview Collating Melb Mitzvah Book Club	21 RWU Prog, Schmooze & Exec Mtg	22 Ramblers 11km Walk	23	24 Candle Lighting: 4:55pm 	25 Shabbat Ends: 5:55pm
26 Hatikvah Reg Mtg RWU Lunch Ramblers SOHW	27	28	29	30	31 Candle Lighting: 4:52pm 	

Many thanks to this month's proof reader - Henry Gladwin

Compiled/set up by Frances Stiglec & Gaby Davis on behalf of B'nai B'rith Victoria Inc.

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Members and friends of B'nai B'rith Victoria acknowledge the Boonerwung group of the Kulin Nation who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet.