



B'NAI B'RITH PREVIEW

BBVIC IS EXCITED FOR 2022

WE MISSED YOU, A LOT!

Message from the President: Save the dates

The triennial B'nai B'rith Convention will be held this year in Melbourne from Friday afternoon 9th September to Tuesday morning 13th September, which is two weeks before Rosh Hashana. A full social and informative program is being organised, with one highlight being the visit by the new International President of B'nai B'rith, Seth Riklin, to update us on international activities and to install the new Board of Governors team. We'd love to see you there, so please save the dates.

In Victoria, we are working on the following matters:

1. A new website. Our current website is looking old and is hard to navigate. Under the umbrella of BBANZ, a totally modern version is being built.
2. Restarting regular meetings of our five Units - COVID permitting.
3. Implementing our strategic plan which focuses on strengthening and supporting the activities and projects we are working on and ensuring that the community has a greater awareness of who B'nai B'rith is and our importance in the fabric of the Victorian Jewish and wider community.
4. Setting up Scholarship and Cultural Funds which will facilitate tax deductible donations.
5. Exploring opportunities for partnerships with other community organisations.

The world we live in is rapidly changing in front of our eyes. The communist States of Russia and China are becoming more nationalistic and assertive, whilst our ally the USA is struggling with internal divisions. Israel, too, is transforming rapidly. Contrary to predictions from pundits, Israel has increasingly become the centre of global Jewish life. With a rising Jewish population and a growing economy, its per capita GDP today is on a par with advanced economies of Europe and south east Asia. Pockets of poverty still exist, but Israel's dependence on Diaspora Jews is diminishing. This has many flow on effects, but one local one for us is the work of our Israel Commission. This project is being ably run by Danielle Schilling, who has steered it for the past six years, taking over from the late Sonia Kempler. Story has it that when Sonia started our Israel Commission, transfer of funds to Israel was not so easy and was mired by banking and bureaucratic problems. Sonia overcame these barriers by quietly slipping the money bills into parts of clothing on her frequent trips to visit our projects. Danielle now rightly feels that the Israel Commission would benefit from working with other organisations in Melbourne to continue our support of Israel and to learn with and from them.

My term as President of BBVic finishes this month, and so I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our staff and volunteers and all our members who have kept the ideals of B'nai B'rith alive through thick and thin. You have been fantastic. Cheers.

President Dr Benny Monheit

Message from the BBANZ President



Since my last report, I am pleased to announce that Mr Seth Riklin, from the USA, has become the new President for BB International. I am also pleased to announce that Mr James Altman OAM has been appointed as a Senior Vice President for BB International. James' areas of jurisdiction include Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada and Israel. On behalf of everyone, we wish James every success in his new role.

To show his interest in Australia, Mr Riklin has already attended a function via Zoom held by the Raoul Wallenberg Unit in Melbourne, despite the lateness of the hour for him. Congratulations go to all involved in that Unit for the function commemorating Mr Wallenberg and arranging for Mr Riklin to attend. Mr Riklin has also indicated a strong desire to visit Australia in September, when our triennial conference is being held. We look forward to his visit.

I am also aware that Unit Akiba was to have celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a dinner on 20th February. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, this had to be postponed once again. Nevertheless, I take this opportunity to wish everyone involved in the Unit Mazeltov on reaching the 40 year milestone and wish the Unit every success for the future.

Shortly, as most of you would be aware, there will be a changing of the guard in Victoria with Dr Peter Schattner taking on the roll of President B'nai B'rith Victoria from Dr Benny Monheit who is also Vice President of BBANZ. I look forward to working with you, Peter, just as I have enjoyed (and still continue to enjoy) working with Benny.

Benny is also the force behind the next triennial convention which is to be held in Melbourne. At that time, Benny will be taking over from me in the role of President BBANZ.

David Samuels

President B'nai B'rith Australia/New Zealand

MAJOR BBVIC EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY:

Tuesday 8th March at 10:00am Current Affairs

Friday 11th March - Monday 14th March - Gesher Rabin Unit / Akiba Weekend away

Monday 14th March - Labor Day (Office Closed)

Thursday 17th March - Purim

Sunday 20th March - In One Voice Festival and Hatikvah Weekend Away

Tuesday 22nd March at 10:00am Current Affairs

RAOUL WALLENBERG UNIT

Co-Presidents: Simone Markus / Jacqui Dinor-Corry

Secretary: Adrienne Perch

Preview: Jacqui Dinor-Corry

PLEASE NOTE: double vaccinations and proof are mandatory for all face-to-face get togethers.

What's happening in March:

Tuesday 1

2pm – On Zoom: **Israel and the Jewish World** commencing with the Memorial Service for the late P/P Phil Symons OAM. Followed by talk by Ahron Shapiro - Senior Policy Analyst with AIJAC on the topic "Fighting the Apartheid Lie".

Wednesday 9

2pm - **Executive Meeting** at the home of Wendy Waller.

Postponed:

Our **bus tour to SALE** previously scheduled for Mar 22-24th has been postponed to Aug 30th-Sep 1st. Details and information again in April edition of the Preview. Hang in there, we are going!

Coming up in April:

Tuesday 5

2pm – **Regular Meeting** - speaker to be advised. Memorial Service for our late Bro. P/P Dr. Leon Taft

Wednesday 13

2:00pm - **Executive Meeting** - venue TBA



Regular meeting in February 2022 with memorial service for the late Eva Urbach and Minnie Kahan, followed by interview with Harry Better OAM and new author Michele Huppert - both Wallenberg members.

GESHER-RABIN UNIT

Co-Presidents: Karin Zafir & Leon Nissen

Secretary: Sue Moskowitz

Preview: Tom & Karin Zafir

Every Sunday 11:00am - **Sunday morning "get-together"** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85211082214?pwd=QU5HNmwySjhvRzltc1cvMVgwWS9RUT09> If you use the link you will not need to enter the passcode, however if you start Zoom and enter the meeting ID, you will be prompted to enter the passcode. Zoom Meeting ID: 852 1108 2214, Passcode 923143

Every Thursday 11:00am - **Exercise Classes** - Exercises adapted for all levels of fitness. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89874540497?pwd=UEUyWWNSRDl0dHJLY2FDVElielh6Zz09> Meeting ID into Zoom: 898 7454 0497, Passcode 053217

What's on in March:

Friday 11 to Monday 14 **Weekend away to Bendigo in conjunction with Unit Akiba**
For more information see flyer circulated previously or contact Jack Aghion.

Saturday 19 8:00pm - **Yentl** - performance by Kadimah Theatre at the Melbourne Arts Centre. Contact Eleanor.

Coming up in April:

Sunday 3 9:45am for a 10:00am start - **'Bushwalking 101'**, a relatively easy introduction to bushwalking – and lots of fun in a friendly and welcoming group.
Basically, if you could walk around Caulfield Park 3 or 4 times (with breaks!), you'll be able to manage this walk, which is in a gorgeous area near Silvan dam.
But you need to book ahead so we know you're coming. Call Evelyn.

Sunday 3 7:30pm - **Speakers Forum**

Gesher Rabin Unit New Year's Day Picnic:



UNIT AKIBA

President: Helen Fisher
Secretary: Annette Gladwin
Preview: Henry Gladwin

What's on in March:

- Friday 11 to Monday 14** Akiba / Gesher-Rabin Units weekend away to Bendigo. Contact person: Henry Winfield.
- Tuesday 15** 7:30pm - **Executive Committee** meeting on Zoom (NB: meeting moved from Wednesday 16th)
- Thursday 17** 8:00pm - 9:30pm - **The Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club** will meet on Zoom and review the book "Growing up Jewish: The Search for Identity", written and presented by Helen Wolfers. Contact person and enquiries re participation: Peter Schattner.
- Sunday 20** 7:30pm - **Regular meeting**, followed by a presentation with Andrew Kolb on the life and times of Richard Tucker, arguably one of the greatest American tenors and a Jewish giant of opera. The presentation will be Zoomed [here](#) or via meeting ID: 897 6822 3633, Passcode: 13579. Enquiries: Kath Kolb.

Coming up in April:

- Sunday 3** 12:00 noon - **Barefoot Bowls** and socialising afternoon at the Armadale Bowls Club, 41 Sussex Road, Caulfield South. Cost \$25 per person, includes bowls and a light lunch. Being barefoot is optional (can wear runners). Book via TryBooking link: [here](#). Enquiries: Brian Luber.
- Wednesday 20** 7:30pm - **Executive Committee** meeting on Zoom.
- Sunday 24** 12:00 noon - **Day outing to the Yarra Valley**, including a garden tour of Dame Nellie Melba's house in Coldstream at 12 noon (tour cost \$18), followed by lunch at the Yarra Glen Grand Hotel at 1:30pm. Enquiries: Henry Winfield.

HATIKVAH UNIT

President: Claude Fromm

Vice-President: Orly Dar

Preview: Judith Steinberg

What's happening in March:

Tuesday 22 Holiday at Marysville - bookings now closed

Sunday 27 8:00pm - **Regular Meeting.** At this stage it will be at the Leo Baeck Centre. Harp Road East Kew. Guest speaker Rita Cincotta talking about the future of work and the impact of Covid on work.

Our best wishes for a healthy year filled with good times and much laughter.

B'NAI B'RITH RAMBLERS

Chair: Vardit Sacks-Davis

Secretary: Tania Tobias

Preview Secretary: Judy Winikoff

Treasurer: Irena Blonder



enquiries@bbramblers.org.au

What's on in March:

Sunday 6 Morning - Julie will lead a **SOMW** walk along Mullum Mullum Creek. Please contact her.

Wednesday 9 Morning - **Midweek** walk along Elwood canal and the beach, led by Vardit and Ron.

Sunday 20 Day - **In One Voice Festival**

Sunday 27 Morning - Evelyn and Malcolm will lead a **SOHW** walk in Mt Dandenong.

What's happening in April:

Sunday 3 Morning - Evelyn will lead a '**Bushwalking 101**' walk in the Silvan Reservoir Park area. This walk is a good introductory walk for anyone wanting to try bushwalking. If you can walk around Caulfield Park 3 times (with breaks) you can cope with this walk.



MELBOURNE MITZVAH LODGE

President: Janet Machliss Kohn

Vice President: Dorothy New

Preview: John Kohn

What's happening in March:

Wednesday 2 Executive Meeting

Monday 7 Programming Meeting

Wednesday 9 **General Meeting** - Guest Speaker is Assoc Prof Dr Les Sheffield "The Effects of Genetics on the Medications we take"

Sunday 27 **First Nations Cultural Nature Walk** and BBQ in Rye at the Kohns'. Limited to 40 people only so please get in early. Cost is \$35.

Bank details:

Account Name - Melbourne Mitzvah Lodge

BSB - 083 231

Account Number - 019232426

Your name in the reference box

Please save the dates:

Monday 2 to Thursday 5 May - Getaway at RACV Club Inverloch

Sunday 22 May - Theatrical performance "Blessed Thorn". Venue: Glen Eira College Performing Arts Complex

*If you know someone who has a special birthday, is unwell or has a welfare update please let us know

2022 BBVic Calendar Link:

Click [HERE](#) to see the BBVic calendar which includes all BBVic and Unit Events and Jewish Holidays

- Keep this link safe as this is where all events, activities or other BBVic related information will be placed.
- We recommend either placing this link on a sticky note on your desktop or making it a favourite in your web browser by clicking this on your web browser:



- You won't be able to edit the calendar, but you will be able to view it. It will update automatically if events change or are added throughout the year.

We hope you enjoy using this calendar.
The BBVic Office

Applications for the 2022 Bernard Lustig Scholarship are now open. If you know of anyone who may be interested in applying, you can direct them to [HERE](#)

Bernard J. Lustig Memorial Scholarship

for high achieving students and active student leaders

Are you a research student pursuing a thesis for a master's degree or PhD?
Or a proven student leader looking to study abroad?
Applications now open

\$2500 Scholarship

Applications close
April 29, 2022



For detailed
guidelines and to
apply scan here



Contact us: (03) 9523 0888 / admin@bbvic.org.au
B'nai B'rith Victoria

BBYO leaders head stateside



A small group of young members of the Sydney and Melbourne Jewish communities flew to Washington and Baltimore to take part in the B'nai B'rith Youth Organisation (BBYO) international convention last week.

More than 5000 young Jewish leaders from around the world attend the event each year to listen to speakers, learn together and develop friendships.

In preparation for their departure Ruby Borer, BBYO NSW co-President said, "I am so excited to have the opportunity to embark on the journey of a lifetime."

"I was lucky enough to join the international convention steering team where I had the chance to help plan programs that will be happening over the weekend."

"We also have the opportunity to see some amazing sights such as the United States Holocaust Museum and hear from speakers such as [Native American actress] Alaiya Cox."

Fellow BBYO NSW Co-President Amy Forman said, "I am really excited for this experience and cannot wait to learn life-long leadership skills and make new friends and build on my Jewish identity."

The Australian group joined BBYO colleagues from countries including the USA, Britain, Finland, the Netherlands, Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Lithuania, Switzerland, Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic, South Africa, Canada, Brazil and Argentina.

BBYO is the largest pluralistic Jewish youth organisation in the world, with more than 80,000 teens in 55 countries. It is run by teenagers, allowing them to learn leadership skills and have fun too.

B'nai B'rith in Victoria is excited about discussions being held with its BBYO counterparts as we work towards forging new connections between the two organisations. We hope that those who attended had the most enriching of experiences, establishing life-long connections with their peers around the world.

Watch this space for upcoming news about increase collaboration between B'nai B'rith Victoria and BBYO Melbourne.

Interested teens should email bbyo@ujeb.org.au to find out more



Fond farewell to our wonderful Administrator, Teegan

It is with sadness that we wish a fond farewell to our wonderful Administrator, Teegan Slomoi who has been accepted for a business analyst internship. Teegan has led us all through this tumultuous pandemic period with a smile, having supported you all through learning how to use Zoom, which we now can't live without. She has diligently compiled the monthly Preview and happily taken on any challenge or query that has been thrown her way over the last two years. We wish Teegan so much luck in following her career journey, in the knowledge that she will always have a home here with us at B'nai B'rith. We look forward to introducing you to Teegan's replacement (big shoes to fill) in the coming weeks. Teegan's last day in the office will be Wednesday March 2. Please join us in wishing Teegan well for her future endeavours.



The Courage to Care photography competition is open:

Seeking creative and talented Upstanders!

Can you use your creative and technical skills to craft an image that illustrates what it is to be an Upstander?

Courage to Care is launching the inaugural Upstander Photography Competition for both students and adults across Victoria.

We have arranged this in consultation with Ellana and the team so it compliments the Youth Art Competition later in the year. We invite you and your friends to demonstrate what it is to be an Upstander through your photography!

When: The Competition is open now and closes 23rd March 2022

Winners in the two categories will be announced at the Courage to Care 30th Anniversary event in May 2022. All judging is confidential.

Where: Submit your entry online. Best pictures will be exhibited at the Courage to Care 30th Anniversary Event, May-June 2022 at the Ark Centre, Hawthorn East.

Why:

- Further develop your photography skills
- A wonderfully creative school project
- Assist us in building a catalogue of images which represent the concept of being an Upstander
- Winning entries in each category will win a \$500 Kogan voucher (thanks to Kogan and Lowe Lippman)

Cost: There is no cost to participate, and generous prizes are on offer.

More information and full T&Cs available at <https://couragetocare.org.au/photo-comp/>

Mike Zervos CEO



BBVic - B'NAI B'RITH VICTORIA

CURRENT AFFAIRS

WITH RON JAMES - SERIES 1, 2022

Join an interactive discussion series tackling pressing global, political and local issues with fellow community members.

Series 1 will take place via zoom.

Sessions are fortnightly on Tuesdays 10am - 12pm, commencing February 8

Bookings essential to receive the link:

BBVic Members - \$30 for 5 sessions

Non Members - \$40 for 5 sessions

<https://www.trybooking.com/BWVNB>

**Feb 8th & 22nd
March 8th & 22nd
April 5th**

Tickets: [HERE](#)

Shoshanna Lehrer - New Beginnings



The Australian Jewish News reported (18 Feb 2022) that Indonesia's first Holocaust Museum was opened by Rabbi Yaakov Baruch at Indonesia's only synagogue, in the Sulawesi province on International Holocaust Remembrance Day. There is a B'nai B'rith angle to this story, explained Adele Hulse, who is the coordinator of the Makor Jewish Library's Write Your Story Program.

Shoshanna Lehrer was a Jewish refugee in Holland during the War. At the age of nine, she and her mother fled to the Dutch East Indies (later called Indonesia) where her father had worked as a doctor. When the Japanese invaded the colony in 1942, all the Jews in the country were incarcerated in prison camps. Shoshanna spent three years in these camps, witnessing starvation, cruelty and death. At the end of the war Shoshanna was nearly 12 years old and weighed only 23 kg.

After the war, the family returned to Holland. Shoshanna married, lived and worked in South America, and then in 1982 she made Aliyah and brought up her two daughters. She also helped to set up and run a support group, called Tempo Dulu, for the 400 Jews in Israel who had been in Indonesia during the war.

Shoshanna started to write about her life and, through contact with Benny Monheit and then Adele Hulse, her book - *New Beginnings* was published by Makor Library in 2013. She then presented her story via video link to the Unit Akiba Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club the following year. The Chair, Peter Schattner, described it as a fascinating, moving and eye opening book club session.

Adele Hulse and Benny have maintained contact with Shoshanna who is now in her 80s and lives in a Dutch aged care home with her partner near Haifa. She is very grateful to Adele and the Makor (Lamm) library and B'nai B'rith for enabling her to get her story written and published.

We have sent a copy of her book to Rabbi Baruch in Indonesia.

Benny Monheit and Adele Hulse



SAVE The DATE

April 3, 2022
Evening

for the first Speakers Forum of 2022

A focused discussion about the Boycott Divestment & Sanctions (BDS) movement

Featuring a range panelists from a variety of sectors offering their perspective and experience as well as practical calls to action.

More details and booking form available soon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 GRU - Sunday morning get-together	28	1 RWU - Israel and the Jewish World	2 MML - Executive Meeting	3 GRU - Exercise classes	4	5
6 GRU - Sunday morning get-together Ramblers - SOMW walk	7 MML - Programming Meeting	8	9 RWU - Executive Meeting Ramblers - Midweek walk MML - General Meeting	10 GRU - Exercise classes	11 GRU/Akiba - Weekend Away	12 GRU/Akiba - Weekend Away
13 GRU- Sunday morning get-together GRU/Akiba - Weekend Away	14 GRU/Akiba - Weekend Away	15 Akiba - Executive Committee Meeting	16	17 GRU - Exercise classes Akiba - The Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club	18	19 GRU - Yentl performance
20 GRU - Sunday morning get-together Akiba - Regular Meeting In One Voice	21	22 Hatikvah - Holiday at Marysville	23	24 GRU - Exercise classes	25	26
27 GRU - Sunday morning get-together Hatikvah - Regular Meeting Ramblers - SOHW walk MML - First Nations Cultural walk	28	29	30	31 GRU - Exercise classes	1	2

Compiled and edited by Teegan Slomoi on behalf of B'nai B'rith Victoria Inc.
Proofread by Henry Gladwin and Printed by Blackfeather, Box Hill.

Official Publication of B'nai B'rith Victoria Inc. Tel: 9523 0888 Email: admin@bbvic.org.au Website: www.bbvic.org.au

Vol. 61 No. 2 March 2022. Price 40 cents. Approved by Australia Post P/P No. 100000993

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.