



B'NAI B'RITH PREVIEW

February

Message from the Vice-President



Dear Members,

Firstly let me say how wonderful it was to hear that our President Peter is now home and recovering. Actually doing well enough to be sending directions on how things are to be managed, finding ways around Doctor Rosa's instructions of complete rest.

I have, as Vice President, stepped in to fill Peter's shoes, and may I say what gigantic feet he must have!

Just getting my head around all Peter has initiated in the task of renewal of B'nai B'rith, is exhausting in itself. From setting up our Mission, Vision, Strategy and Purpose, to identifying the Issues and the Policies needed, written up in a clear Manifesto, from our Innovation Board to finding new ways to engage with the younger members of the Jewish Community, through new projects, initiatives and events. Driving the efforts for an improved website for the whole of BBANZ, initiating a review of the costs and benefits of our current office location, finding ways to secure the continued financial viability of B'nai B'rith through managing costs and finding new income sources such as donations and sponsorships. The first step of which is securing DGR (deductible gift reciprocity) status for the newly established Cultural and Scholarship Funds, and so on and so forth. As we work to secure our organisation's future, there is also the wonderful work that continues in our Units and Projects.

Of course, this is all being achieved via the incredibly hard work of our CEO Ellana, our staff, Executive and the VBBC. An unbelievable team whose mission is to rebuild our organisation and ensure it remains a pillar of the Victorian Jewish Community's continuity and strength.

Peter, we look forward to your continued recuperation and having you back at the helm for the task ahead. But please take your time as we all are here following the excellent path that you have set for us.

We wish you well and come back hale & hearty!

Jack Aghion
Vice-President

Message from the BBANZ President



It is taking me a while to understand my new role as President of B'nai B'rith Australia New Zealand. My predecessor, David Samuels in Sydney, quietly advised me last year that its role can become whatever I want it to be whilst being the spokesperson for the Federal organisation, working with an elected group of wise representatives who constitute the Board of Governors.

We have set ourselves 3 tasks:

- a) To get the new website and data system up and running in the 3 States by March 2023
- b) To foster closer links with B'nai B'rith International
- c) To work with the States to help them grow so that B'nai B'rith can flourish.

The President's position sounded like a cushy, comfortable job, but I have learnt already that it has unexpected bouts of high activity and importance. The severe floods in Victoria, after the deluge in Queensland and NSW, for example, led us to open a community appeal for funds for Victoria's flood victims. Within 6-7 weeks our generous members and friends had raised over \$10,000 which was distributed via the B'nai B'rith Foundation to volunteers from Lions Clubs who worked around the State. Thank you, dear donors.

Another surprising event for me was a call from SBS TV news wanting B'nai B'rith's comment on NSW's Premier Perrottet's apology on wearing a Nazi Uniform at his birthday party 20 years ago. The Attorney General Mark Dreyfus had addressed the very successful Raoul Wallenberg annual commemoration meeting that day at the Town Hall and was asked to respond by the Press from SBS on Perrottet's actions. Holocaust survivor Harry Better and I were both asked for our view and were on World News TV and radio for a brief interview - see picture below. Congratulations to the Raoul Wallenberg Unit leadership for organising that brilliant community event.

One other memorable event in Melbourne during the past month was the Chanukah get together with the Aboriginal community in Federation Square which Jack Aghion helped organise with the Ark Centre and the JCCV. I believe that we made the right decision in B'nai B'rith to support the First Nation's Uluru Statement from the Heart. This is consistent with our Human Rights focus and desire to help underprivileged groups in our Australian community.

I trust that you are all receiving regular updates from B'nai B'rith International via their press releases and links in your weekly updates. Their role in lobbying for Israel, fighting anti-Semitism around the world and supporting housing for the poor and elderly is commendable. It is a different focus to what some of our units do but is part of the international work that makes B'nai B'rith one of the largest Jewish community organisations in the world. We can all be very proud to belong to B'nai B'rith.



Reconciliation Chanukah Event at Fed Square

Once again B'nai B'rith teamed up with Ark Centre, JCCV, Courage to Care and Stand Up to drive this year's Reconciliation Chanukah celebrations at Fed Square on the fifth night of Chanukah.

That day the skies loomed dark and threatening, the rain pelting, BOM (the good old name of the Bureau of Meteorology) promising the rain to stop at 7.15pm (our function starting 15 minutes earlier). However as usual BOM was wrong and the rain stopped at precisely 7pm!

The festivities began with Rabbi Gabi Kaltmann's inimitable enthusiastic introduction, Uncle Shane Charles playing a deep note on the Yidaki (Didgeridoo) followed by his meaningful 'Welcome to Country' as he is also of the Wurundjeri clan.

MC Jamil Tye, Director of the William Cooper Institute at Monash Uni addressed the large crowd, followed by Jill Morgan AM, Deputy Chair of the Ethnic Council of Victoria, who spoke of the need for all community organisations to come together in support of the Indigenous cause and Referendum. The socially inclusive Young World Choir gave enjoyable renditions of songs from the production 'Night of Broken Glass', praising Uncle William Cooper's march of November 1938, on the German Consulate in Melbourne.

Our guest Kevin Bell AM KC, Commissioner of the Yoorrook Truth & Justice Commission, lit the Shamash candle on the large Menorah in Fed Square. Leila Gurruwiwi Media & Sports personality, Tony Weldon OAM Immediate Past Chair of Courage to Care, Doron Abramovici Vice President JCCV, Karen Milward Indigenous Consultant to JCCV, and Alex Kats Chair of the Council of Christian and Jews, each in turn lit the candles on the Menorah.

Indigenous fashion designer Lyn-Al Young, whom we found out happened to be the cousin of our MC, addressed the need for the Australian Community to come together and vote for the Referendum as a sign of healing for our troubled past.

The evening ended on quite a high note with the brilliant and soulful music of Jalgany, an accomplished Indigenous band, who kept the large audience entertained (and dancing) in the Square.

It was a wonderful and successful event, which B'nai B'rith will definitely be a part of again in 2023 as a cornerstone of our First Nations Reconciliation Project!



OUT AND ABOUT

Reconciliation Chanukah Party in Federation Square



RAOUL WALLENBERG UNIT

Co-Presidents: Simone Markus / Jacqui Dinor-Corry
Secretary: Adrienne Perch
Preview: Jacqui Dinor-Corry



What's on in February:

- Wednesday 1** 2:30pm - **Executive Meeting** at the home of Jacqui Dinor-Corry.
- Tuesday 7** 2:00pm - **Regular Meeting** at Beth Weizmann, commencing with a Memorial service for the late Ruth Riess, followed by guest speaker Mr Jamie Hyams, Senior Policy Analyst with AIJAC, speaking on "Latest Developments in Israel".
- Sunday 12** 2:00pm - 4:30pm
 Welcome back function for the teachers who were awarded Raoul Wallenberg Study Grants by the Raoul Wallenberg Unit and Gandel Philanthropy at Beth Weizmann - booking details on page 12

Coming up in March:

- Wednesday 1** 2:30pm - **Executive meeting** at the home of Wendy Waller.
- Tuesday 14** 2:30pm - **Festive Regular meeting** at Beth Weizmann
 Post Purim Quiz with afternoon tea. All welcome. \$5
- Thursday 16** 1:30pm - **Visit to Duldig Studio** - sculptor and artist in Malvern with afternoon tea and guided tour. Bookings essential with Irene Bud \$20
- Wednesday 29** 2:30pm - **Executive meeting** at the home of Jacqui Dinor-Corry.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Pola Better (2), Lotti Philipp (4), Rabbi Philip Heilbrunn OAM (20), Jack Bloustein (21), Sylvia Freeman (23).

GET WELL to Miriam Faraday.

MAZAL TOV to Ian Joseph on the marriage of his granddaughter and to Ruth Figdor on the birth of a great granddaughter in Israel.

DONATIONS RECEIVED: Michele Huppert, Rena Komesaroff, Jacqui Dinor-Corry and Claude Fromm (Hatikvah Unit).

GESHER-RABIN UNIT

Co-Presidents: Karin Zafir / Leon Nissen

Secretary: Sue Moskowitz

Preview: Karin Zafir



Every Sunday 11:00 am - **Sunday morning "get-together"**

Note: Zoom get-together will not take place on 3rd Sunday of each month due to Umbrella Lounge in person get-together

Every Thursday 11:00am - **Exercise Classes** - Exercises adapted for all levels of fitness.

What's on in February:

Sunday 5 8:00am - 4:00pm - **Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Moorabbin** (Warrigal Rd).
Contact Evelyn Flitman especially if you can help from 12-2pm

Sunday 19 11:00am - **Members coffee and chat get together** at the Umbrella Lounge, 338-340 Glenhuntly Rd. A talk by Yoga instructor Pippa Evans is planned for the morning.
Lunch can be ordered during or afterwards. RSVP Eleanor Aghion by 15 February.

Coming up in March:

Friday 3 - Sunday 5 Weekend away in Phillip Island together with Unit Akiba. A wonderful program has been planned. Contact Jack Aghion

Sunday 26 City Walk. Details to come.

Coming up in April:

Sunday 16 12:00 - 2:00pm - Cruise along the Maribyrnong River to Williamstown to see some of the sights of the Jewish Community's history in the development of Footscray from 12 noon. The 2-hour cruise with a stop in at Williamstown. Cost \$30 per person limited to 30 people only. Secure your seat ASAP. Carpool from Caulfield Park Pavilion carpark to the Bunbury St Floating Landing. More info soon. Contact Leon Nissen

The following members celebrate their birthdays in February:

Helen Stern (3rd), Peter Zeeng (6th), Yvonne Segal (12th), Karin Zafir (19th), Freda Goldschmied (20th), Claudine Berman (28th)

Welfare

If you know of anyone else in an unfortunate situation, please contact our Welfare Officer, Leon Nissen (kirschnernissen@hotmail.com)

If you know of anyone who is celebrating a Simcha or birth of a grandchild, please contact Karin Zafir (kzafir@optusnet.com.au)

UNIT AKIBA

Co-Presidents: Helen Fisher / Henry Winfield

Secretary: Annette Gladwin

Preview: Annette Harriott



What's on in February:

Wednesday 15 7:30pm - **Executive Committee meeting** on Zoom.

Saturday 18 **Soiree** in support of our charities with Virtuoso Pianist Nonna Berter at Evi Morawetz's place. \$40 for BB members \$45 non members. 8.30pm start. Includes a delicious supper and regifting raffle.
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CFCGC by 10th Feb. See flyer on page 12.

Coming up in March:

Friday 3 - Sunday 5 Fabulous weekend at Philip Island together with Gesher Rabin unit, staying at Waves apartments. For more information contact Henry Winfield

Wednesday 18 7:30pm - **Executive Committee meeting** on Zoom.

Thursday 16 8:00 - 9:30pm - **The Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club**
Face at face, venue TBC
Book: 'Uprooted' by Lyn Julius
Presented by Myer Bloom
Enquiries: Peter at non-fiction@bbvic.org.au

Sunday 19 12:00-2:30pm - **Barefoot Bowls** at Armadale Bowling Club
Light lunch, cost TBA.

The following members celebrate their birthdays in February:

Stephen Lucas (6th), Mark Haskin (7th), Peter Schattner (9th), Sabina Zmood (9th), Herman Klein (16th), Henry Winfield (17th) and Esther Lewin (20th).

We wish a **Refuah Shleima** to Peter Schattner and any members of Unit Akiba who may be unwell at the present time. We hope to see you joining us again very soon!

Our sincere condolences to Philip Woolf on the passing of Philip's sister Marcia Cooper.
Our sincere condolences to Beatrice Mense, Jessica and Caroline and to Liz James and family on the passing of our beloved member Robert Mense. We will miss him.

HATIKVAH UNIT

President: Claude Fromm

Vice-President: Orly Dar

Preview: Judith Steinberg



What's on in February:

Sunday 12

10:00am - Calico Dolls

Uncertain whether back to face to face at the home of Gerry Hamer. Email will be sent if this is not so. Please give Gerry a call if you would like to pick up a bag of dolls to complete at home. 9857 9909

Sunday 26

8:00pm- **Regular Meeting** at Leo Baeck Centre, East Kew

Guest speaker: Dan Rabinovici who will be speaking about the Ukrainian/Russian Crisis. Please bring a small plate to share for supper.

Happy Birthday to Ruth Taft who celebrates her birthday on 8 February.

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

Deepest Condolences

Sadly, Leon Hain passed away on 18/1/23. Our thoughts are with Jeanette, Rachel, Tamara and all the family. We wish them long life.

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 February:

Sunday 5

Morning - SOMW walk in Plenty Gorge Park, led by Julie.

Wednesday 15

Morning - Werribee River walk, led by Vardit and Ron

Sunday 26

Morning - Evelyn and Malcolm will lead the Heritage Whipstick walk in Wombat State Forest, Blackwood. This is a hard walk.

Coming up in March:

Sunday 5

Morning - Saul will lead a SOMW walk in Mt Martha.

MELBOURNE MITZVAH LODGE

President: Janet Machliss Kohn
Vice-President: Danielle Schilling
Preview: Dr John Kohn



What's on in February

- Wednesday 1 February** 7:30pm - Executive meeting (Zoom)
- Monday 6 February** 7:30pm - Programming meeting (Zoom)
- Wednesday 8 February** 7:30pm - General meeting (at Beth Weizmann)
- Sunday 26 February** 12:30pm - **Welcome back BBQ and Dress Up Party**

Theme: "Back to the 60s and 70s"

Come dressed in school 'Muck Up Day' attire or hot pants, bell bottoms, safari suits, mouseketeer ears- whatever you choose!

We look forward to an hilarious and fun event!

At the Wainrit's home- 32 Briggs St, Caulfield

Save the Date. Be there or be square!!!

Coming up in March

- Wednesday 1 March** 7:30pm - Executive meeting (Zoom)
- Monday 6 March** 7:30pm - Programming meeting (Zoom)
- Wednesday 8 March** 7:30pm - General meeting (at Beth Weizmann)
 Guest speaker: Eddie Tamir, Director of the Jewish International Film Festival and owner of the Classic Cinema.

Save the Date

8-11 May: Midweek Getaway to Torquay

Arrangements progressing well with over 40 members having confirmed bookings. We still have rooms available if anyone else would like to come. Booking details are on the flyer that was previously sent around. Single rooms available and car pooling can be arranged.
 Email John Kohn for information.

A hearty Mazel Tov to members who are celebrating their birthdays in February:

Frances Lowe, Harold Luntz, Tania Nahum, Dorothy New, Renee Super, Arie Offenberger, Ruth Waisberg

Devorah Zmood requests that members send dates of their birthdays.

Donations to Making A Difference:

Generous donations have been received from Jeffrey & Frieda Shapiro and Martha Vanderhoek.

To make a donation, please credit the "Making A Difference" account:

BSB: 013017 Account Number: 900128923

Reference box - Your name. Please email makingadifference@bbvic.org.au with your details.

OUT AND ABOUT

Ramblers Walk



Hatikvah Members Making Calico Dolls



B'NAI B'RITH ARMCHAIR SOCIETY 2023

In partnership with the Lamm Jewish Library of Australia

Current Affairs Discussion

with

RON JAMES

FIVE PART FORTNIGHTLY SERIES:
FEB 7, FEB 14, FEB 28, MAR 14, MAR 28

VENUE: LAMM JEWISH LIBRARY
306 HAWTHORN RD, CAULFIELD SOUTH 3162
SERIES TICKETS \$25 OR \$5 PER SESSION

TUESDAYS, 10:00AM - 12:00PM

WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CEJDF

(03) 9523 0888 / www.bnaibrith.org.au/victoria



OUT AND ABOUT

Inaugural Raoul Wallenberg Day

Raoul Wallenberg Unit held their Inaugural Raoul Wallenberg Day on January 15, the nearest date to January 17 when Wallenberg was last sighted.

The keynote guest speaker was the Honorable Mark Dreyfus KC MP Attorney General of Australia. This event, hosted annually by the city of Port Phillip, was held at the St Kilda Town Hall, where Councillor Mark Pearl addressed the packed Council Chambers.



Attorney-General Mr Mark Dreyfus



Councillor Tim Baxter (City of Port Phillip), Simone Markus (Co-President RWU), Attorney-General Mr Mark Dreyfus, Jacqui Dinor-Corry (Co-President RWU), Councillor Marcus Pearl (City of Port Phillip)



Mike Zervos (CEO Courage to Care), Attorney-General Mr Mark Dreyfus KC, Judi Schiff (Foundation member of RWU).



Simone Markus (Co-President RWU), Abram Goldberg (Holocaust survivor), Sylvia Freeman (RWU member)

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Annual Akiba Soirée

Saturday February 18th, 2023, at 8.30pm

At Evi Morawetz's: 1/55 Ercildoune Street, North Caulfield

You are cordially invited to attend the annual Akiba soir  e which will commence **at 8.30pm**. Why would you want to attend? Because, for **only \$40** per person (non B'nai B'rith members \$45), you get:

1. **Live entertainment** - with virtuoso pianist, **Nonna Berter**
2. **Relaxed schmoozing** - with friendly people
3. **Profits going to worthwhile charities** - Hatzolah, Access and Beit Rafael. A so-called '**regifting raffle**' will contribute towards this (details in a separate email).



A mixture of classical, jazz, Hebrew and Yiddish melodies

4. **A sumptuous supper** - don't eat for a week beforehand.

Bookings: Via TryBooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/CFC6C>

Contact person: For enquiries, please contact **Suzanne Goldin** on 0414 313 136 or at suzannegoldin@yahoo.com. Please book via TryBooking **ASAP**, but definitely by **no later than Friday, February 10th**. **In fact, WHY NOT BOOK NOW!**



B'NAI B'RITH RAOUL WALLENBERG UNIT

Study Grant Teachers' Welcome Back

Date: Sunday 12 February @ 2:00pm

Venue: Beth Weizmann

Join us to welcome back teachers who have returned from Israel after completing The Gandel Holocaust Studies Program for Australian Educators.

Book and make a donation [here](#)

Norm Tendler - Email: 59lothian@gmail.com Mobile: 0425 761 463

Simone Markus - Email: simarkus94@gmail.com Mobile: 0402 812 875

CONTACT US: (03) 9523 0888 / www.bnaibrith.org.au



Yad Vashem
The International School for Holocaust Studies



OUT AND ABOUT

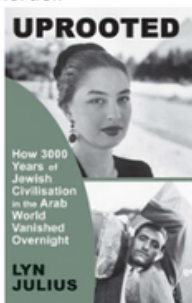
Gesher-Rabin 'Not Quite Australia Day' Picnic at Hedgeley Dene Gardens



B'NAI B'RITH JEWISH NON-FICTION BOOK CLUB

Featuring "Uprooted" by Lyn Julius.
Presented by Myer.

Lyn Julius is a journalist and co-founder of Harif, an association of Jews from the Middle East and North Africa. Jews lived continuously in the Middle East and North Africa for almost 3,000 years. Yet, in just 50 years, their indigenous communities outside Palestine almost totally disappeared as more than 99% of the Jewish population fled. Over 650,000 went to Israel. Before the Holocaust, they constituted 10% of the world's Jewish population, and now over 50% of Israel's Jews are refugees from Arab and Muslim countries, or their descendants. This book tells their story. For those whose knowledge of Jewish history is based on the European and Western viewpoint, this history gives a completely different perspective, and is one that needs to be told.



THURSDAY 16 MARCH 2022, 8:00-9:30pm, at Myer's home

For more information on the book club, or how to obtain the book and for the address, please contact Peter at non-fiction@bbvic.org.au.



COURAGE TO CARE UPDATE



GOODBYE 2022

Nearly 12,000 students had the opportunity to experience our programs in the full 2022 year. We are proud that nearly half our activity is in regional Victoria and that the interest in our Middle Years Program (grades 5 and 6) continues to be so strong. We are also proud to visit Government, Catholic and Independent schools across the state.

Despite the ongoing challenges it was a remarkably successful year!

HELLO 2023

We are delighted to have signed a contract for increased funding support from the Department of Education for the next four years. This combined with the continued support from the community will enable us to reach even more students across Victoria.

This is wonderful acknowledgement of the importance of the work we are doing and the lasting impact on the students and staff with whom we engage. We know that the message we deliver is needed more than ever and our work has just begun. With this generous endorsement and the continued support of the community we know that we can have an even greater positive impact!

Our target for 2023 is to reach 13,750 students across Victoria



We wish all our friends at B'nai B'rith a wonderful year ahead.

Mike Zervos CEO



Letters to the Editor

Feel free to send in any comments, questions and observations on any topic to editor@bbvic.org.au. We will include a selection in each month's Preview.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

UPCOMING EVENT

B'NAI B'RITH HUMAN RIGHTS ORATION

**BOOK
NOW**



DEBORAH GLASS OBE

VICTORIAN OMBUDSMAN

SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER
The Human Rights Watchdog

WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2023, 7:30PM

WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CEQPY

**VENUE: MELBOURNE HOLOCAUST
MUSEUM**

(03) 9523 0888 / www.bnaibrith.org.au

MELBOURNE
HOLOCAUST
MUSEUM

Judy & Leon Goldman Learning Centre



**B'nai
B'rith**

B'NAI B'RITH - MAKING A DIFFERENCE**JEWISH STUDENTS NEED YOUR SUPPORT**

'Making a Difference' bursaries - providing support to financially disadvantaged Jewish students in Years 11 & 12 in State and Jewish schools for the last 27 years.

- **OVER \$220,000 DONATED TO 280 STUDENTS SINCE 1996!**
- **DEMAND HAS NEVER BEEN HIGHER**
- **AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST OUR YOUTH IN THEIR SCHOOLING**

Donations to: Making a Difference (MAD)

BSB 013017 Account # 900128923

Email: Devorah Zmood MakingADifference@bbvic.org.au with your details.



DONATE TODAY!

CONTACT US: (03) 9523 0888 / www.bnaibrith.org.au/victoria



A project of Melbourne Mitzvah Lodge

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 MML Exec meeting RWU Exec meeting	2 GRU Exercise class	3	4
5 Ramblers walk Bunnings Sausage Sizzle GRU get together	6 MML Programming meeting	7 RWU Regular meeting	8 MML General meeting	9 GRU Exercise class	10	11
12 Hatikvah Calico Dolls GRU get together RWU Welcome Back for teachers	13	14	15 Ramblers walk Akiba Exec meeting	16 GRU Exercise class	17	18 Akiba Soiree
19 GRU get together at Umbrella Lounge	20	21	22	23 GRU Exercise class	24	25
26 Ramblers walk GRU get together Hatikvah Regular meeting MML Welcome Back BBQ & Dress Up	27	28				

Click [HERE](#) to see the B'nai B'rith calendar which includes all B'nai B'rith and Unit Events and Jewish Holidays.

Compiled and edited by 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 work and meet.