



B'NAI B'RITH PREVIEW



Message from the President...B'nai B'rith and human rights



Adam Butt, barrister, will deliver the B'nai B'rith Human Rights Oration on Sunday 7 April. He will also receive this year's B'nai B'rith Human Rights Award. Adam will be speaking on native title, racial discrimination and antisemitism in schools.

But what are human rights? In this topsy-turvy world where one man's 'terrorism' is another man's 'resistance', it seems to me that people have collectively lost their ability to have consensus over definitions and what might constitute fundamental human values. The Australian Human Rights Commission has defined human rights as '...as a number of basic rights that people from around the world have agreed are essential. These include the right to life, the right to a fair trial, freedom from torture and other cruel and inhuman treatment, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the rights to health, education and an adequate standard of living.'

(See <https://humanrights.gov.au/>.)

However, when we consider specific examples, it appears that so many people cannot agree on whether something crosses a line as a human rights violation. The Commission's website has a link on its home page which refers to 'the escalating humanitarian crisis in Gaza'.

The Commission 'urges the Australian Government to use its influence to advocate for a sustainable cessation of hostilities.' It agrees with those who call for Israel to refrain from entering Rafah in southern Gaza as this would result in a humanitarian disaster. But would allowing Hamas to survive as a military and political force in Gaza be consistent with a human rights stand? The Commission appears not to discuss that.

I recently watched on SBS On Demand a series titled 'The Australian Wars', which I highly recommend. It details the clashes between Aborigines and the British and early settlers that resulted in numerous massacres of First Nations people in NSW, Tasmania, northern Queensland and the Kimberley. This was all part of the settlement of this country, that is, by white Australians. While it might have been the way things were done in those days, there is little doubt that it would have often breached human rights principles. What are we to make of it now? How do we redress the injustices that were done?



These are complex issues, and the annual B'nai B'rith Human Rights Oration does not intend to simply bring out the cheer squad from a one-sided audience, but is aimed at deepening our understanding of these matters. Adam Butt has been a champion for human rights, and we should take this opportunity to not only support him, but importantly to learn from him. This will help us in the future to advocate for human rights with the knowledge and commitment this deserves.

I urge each and every one of you – all of our 400 plus members of B'nai B'rith – to attend the Oration. You can book easily at <https://events.humanitix.com/oration>.

Peter Schattner
President

Surviving and Winning in Difficult Times



Dear Members,

I regret to inform you that I have cancelled our proposed B'nai B'rith Mission to Israel. The aim of the trip was to show our support for Israel and for our B'nai B'rith projects and to see our organisation in action. But in discussion with our friends at BB Israel it became clear that their priorities and time was focused on their daily battles of life and living in a war zone. We would be welcome to come, but the reality is, I feel that we may be more of a nuisance there than a help.

Our tour group would not consist of vigorous 30-40 year olds who could work for a week in the agricultural fields or warehouses all day - we are in our 60s or 70s (and older), so realistically not that useful in the current circumstances. The cost for the trip would be nearly \$8,000 per person (incl some Economy Plus airfares) and interest for the trip by members so far has been low.

I think we can be more useful to Israel and to B'nai B'rith at the present moment by continuing our fundraising activities for their projects which help families and people in need. We can also help by pressing our government in Australia to be strong in not caving in to political pressure from the pro-Palestinian lobby.

A question I have been asking myself increasingly is why is Hamas not surrendering? Their civilians are starving, most have lost their homes, and half their fighters are wounded, captured or killed. And why are they winning the public relations war in the Western press, in the street and at the United Nations? Even in Melbourne and Sydney we have seen huge weekly rallies by friends of Palestine taking over the streets in well organised public events.

I think we are seeing a worldwide resurgent battle for religious supremacy by various Muslim groups. Their views are not driven by western values or Gaza land rights. Jews and Christians have lived alongside Muslims over many centuries since the birth of Mohammed in Mecca in 570 CE but they have always tried to convert 'infidels'. Added to their current belief that any sign of weakness or compromise in battle is unacceptable to fundamentalistic Islam, a sensible solution is not on the horizon. We join Israel in this long battle. Please continue to support Israel by donating to our B'nai B'rith Israel appeal on www.bnaibrith.org.au. We have helped hundreds of Israeli families through our efforts to send money for food supplies, clothing and support for Jewish children in school-based projects in various parts of Israel. Thank you! We need to keep it up. Shalom.

Benny Monheit
President, BBANZ

UPCOMING EVENTS

B'NAI B'RITH ARMCHAIR SOCIETY

In partnership with the Lamm Jewish Library of Australia
and Beth Weizmann Jewish Community Centre
Hosted by Ron James

5 PART FORTNIGHTLY SERIES

Featuring fascinating guest speakers at each session

May 7 - Jeremy Leibler
May 21 - Prof Martin Delatycki AM
June 4 - Dr David Adler
June 18 - Jeff Kennett AC
July 2 - Bronwyn Bishop AO

Venue to be advised upon booking

SERIES TICKETS \$40 OR \$10 PER SESSION

TUESDAYS, 10:00AM - 12:00PM

EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/AS2

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



**BOOK FOR
SERIES 2!**



BETH WEIZMANN
מרכז קהילתי בית וויצמן
Jewish Community Centre

Lamm Jewish
Library of
Australia



B'nai
B'rith

FASCINATING 3 PART SERIES ON ISRAEL & THE REGION!

B'NAI B'RITH

presents

ISRAEL UNCOVERED

with

EREZ FEINBERG

A fascinating 3-part series on Israel and the region!

EXPLORE:

History | Geography | Archaeology | Geopolitics | Flavours

Arm yourself with knowledge in the face of
misinformation and ignorance.

EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/ISRAEL-UNCOVERED

**3 WEDNESDAYS
MAY 22, MAY 29, JUNE 5**

7:00PM

\$25 PER SESSION / \$75 FOR SERIES
Includes light dinner

CONTACT: admin@bbvic.org.au | 9523 0888 | www.bnaibrith.org.au



B'nai
B'rith





WILLS & BEQUESTS

**PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A GIFT
IN YOUR WILL TO ENSURE THE FUTURE OF B'NAI
B'RITH IS VIBRANT, BRIGHT AND SUSTAINABLE**

THE B'NAI B'RITH VICTORIA FUTURE FUND

We are thrilled to announce the establishment of the B'nai B'rith Future Fund. Having received a number of bequests in recent months, it was realised that in order to ensure that these moneys are utilised effectively that a Fund be established for all bequests received.

Only the interest earned on these bequests will be used each year to fund grants. We are still finalising the criteria via which these grants will be managed, but it is hoped that the establishment of this Fund will encourage more of you, the members who have all been the beneficiaries of this wonderful organisation to include B'nai B'rith in your will.

It is expected that once the Future Fund's principle reaches a substantial amount, say \$500,000 then a portion of the interest earned will be utilised to assist in funding the administrative work of the organisation, ensuring the continued sustainability and viability of B'nai B'rith Victoria.

Leaving a bequest in your Will is a powerful way to create a lasting legacy. Whether large or small, your bequest will ensure B'nai B'rith can continue to serve your community.

To learn more or to have a confidential discussion, please contact CEO Ellana Aarons on 03 9523 0888.

*Leaving a bequest in your Will is a powerful way to
create a lasting legacy.*

*Whether large or small, your bequest will ensure B'nai
B'rith can continue to serve your community.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

B'NAI B'RITH

presents

A CONVERSATION WITH

Bestselling author

DIANE ARMSTRONG

Author of the new book

"The Wild Date Palm"

Interview by Michaela Kowalski

Michaela has interviewed writers and thinkers from the worlds of arts, science and politics.

'The Wild Date Palm' will be available for sale at the event.

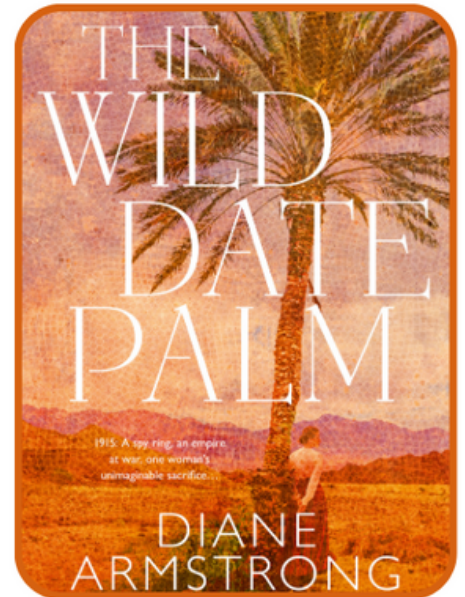
Venue to be advised upon booking.



'The Wild Date Palm' is based on an astonishing true story of espionage and passion - where a Jewish family fight for survival within the Ottoman Empire in World War I.



Michaela Kowalski



TUESDAY 16 APRIL 2024 10:00AM

EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/ARMSTRONG

9523 0888 | www.bnaibrith.org.au/victoria



B'NAI B'RITH UNIT GESHER-RABIN

Second Night Seder

We are again holding a second night seder, hosted by Rose Nash and conducted with his incredible knowledge and humour by Jock Orkin.

TUESDAY 23 APRIL, 6.30PM

COST: \$10 PLUS BRING A PLATE (MEMBERS ONLY)

[HTTPS://EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/SECOND-SEDER-2024](https://EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/SECOND-SEDER-2024)

Bookings essential. Numbers strictly limited. At a private home in Carnegie.

Location will be advised on booking.

BRING A PLATE. CONTACT ROSE ON 0408 325 849 TO DISCUSS WHAT TO BRING



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Featuring "Catch the Jew" by Tuvia Tenenbom.

Presented by Lana Burgess.

Catch the Jew! recounts the adventures of Tuvia Tenenbom, who wanders around Israel calling himself "Tobi the German." In the course of numerous interviews Tuvia extracts information, sentiments, hidden theories and delusional visions motivating the miscellany of peoples forming the present-day Holy Land.



Catch the Jew!, the most humorous composition on the Middle East to date, is a polyglot spin around a cultural miscegenation in a very small space. However, its never-daunted author finds that with labneh, strudel, olive oil, apple pie, kebab, rugelach, hummus and schnitzel, a happy tummy can bear us through even the most appalling matters. Except the conclusion.

THURSDAY 16 MAY 2024, 8:00-9:30pm

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.



B'nai
B'rith

B'NAI B'RITH FELLOWSHIP CONCERT

Featuring the fabulous
"BRENDAN SCOTT"

Venue:

To be advised on booking

Time:

2:30pm

Cost:

\$10 entry includes afternoon tea
& a raffle ticket

MONDAY 20 MAY 2024

BOOKINGS: Deidre 0408 121 213



Proudly supported by



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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

What's on in April:

- Saturday 6** 7:00pm - **Members Only Popcorn, Movie & Pizza night** at the Flitman home.
Movie: "Gettin' Square". Cost \$10 to cover pizza. Pay on the night but bookings essential!
Synopsis: Barry has good intentions when he is released after 8 years in prison, but finding a job is difficult with a prison record, and he can't keep his kid brother or his friend out of crime.
Email Evelyn to book.
- Sunday 21** 11:00am - **Members' coffee and chat** get together at the Umbrella Lounge, 338-340 Glenhuntly Rd, Elsternwick. Becca Williams will be answering questions about home remedies and homeopathy.
RSVP Eleanor Aghion by 17 April.
- Tuesday 23** **Second Night Seder** hosted by Rose Nash. Conducted by Jock Orkin
Cost: \$10 plus bring a plate (MEMBERS ONLY)
Bookings: <https://events.humanitix.com/second-seder-2024>
Enquiries and to discuss what to bring contact Rose.

Coming up in May:

- Sunday 5** 11:00am - **Visit to Forest Glade Gardens** at 816 Mt Macedon Rd, Mt Macedon. Car pooling suggested. Contact Eleanor Aghion.
Forest Glade is a historic private garden that is acknowledged as one of the most beautiful in Australia being almost 100 years old.
- Sunday 19** 11:00am - **Members' coffee and chat** get together at the Umbrella Lounge with Debra Star about her book and motivation to write. Lunch can be ordered during or afterwards.
RSVP Eleanor Aghion by 15 May.
- Saturday 25** 7:00pm - **Dinner at Brighton Beach Hotel.** Contact Lillian Oblat.

UNIT AKIBA

President: Henry Winfield

Secretary: Annette Gladwin

Preview: Annette Harriott

What's on in April:

Tuesday 9 *10:30am - Outing to Royal Botanical Gardens* at Cranbourne, Ballarto Road and Botanic Drive Cranbourne. Admission is free. RSVP to Miriam by 2/3/24.

Coming up in May:

Wednesday 1 **Visit to Bendigo Art Gallery Exhibition: "Paris, Impressions of life 1880-1925"**. Journey through the historic and lively streets of Paris. Tickets can be purchased at the door \$30 and \$20 Conc. Lunch is at The Rifle Bridge Hotel in Vue Street. Return to Melbourne via train. Meet at Bendigo platform at Southern Cross station at 8.45am for 9.00am train. RSVP to Henry W by 25/4.

Saturday 11 *6:00pm dinner, 8:00pm show - CLOC production Billy Elliot* at National Theatre St Kilda. Purchase your own ticket and let Henry W know. Dinner will be in Ackland Street at 6pm. You will be notified of dinner venue.

Monday 13 *7:30pm - Executive Committee Meeting* on Zoom. Apologies to Henry Winfield. Agenda and Zoom link will be sent prior to meeting.

Thursday 16 *8:00 - 9:30pm - Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club*. Featuring "Catch the Jew" by Tuvia Tenenbom. Presented by Lana Burgess. Please contact Peter Schattner at nonfiction@bbvic.org.au for more information.

Sunday 19 *7:30pm - Regular meeting* with guest speaker Lenny Gross, speaking about Disability. Held at Evie Morawetz place. Please bring a small plate to share for supper and a folding chair.

Sunday 26 *2:00pm - Planning meeting* at Suzanne Goldin's place. Please bring a small plate to share for afternoon tea.

Unit Akiba wishes all members and their families Chag Sameach, and a Happy, Kosher and Healthy Pesach.

HATIKVAH UNIT

President: Claude Fromm

Vice-President: Orly Dar

Preview: Judith Steinberg

What's on in April:

Sunday 7 April 9:30 - 11:30am - **Calico Dolls** at the home of Ken and Garry Hamer. Please let them know if you are coming.

Wednesday 10 April 8:00pm - **Activities Meeting**

Wednesday 17 April 7:00pm - **Executive Meeting**

Thursday 25 April 10:30am - **Anzac Day walk and lunch.** Drop off food at LBC. Walk begins at 11:00am for those walking. Lunch to share.

Coming up in May:

Wednesday 8 May 8:00pm - **Activities Meeting**

Wednesday 22 May 7:00pm - **Executive Meeting**

Sunday 26 May 8:00pm - **Regular meeting**

Our best wishes for a healthy month filled with good times and much laughter. We wish a Refuah Shleima to anyone feeling under the weather.

B'NAI B'RITH RAMBLERS

Chair: Vardit Sacks-Davis

Secretary: Tania Tobias

Preview Secretary: Judy Winikoff

Treasurer: Irena Blonder



9527 6002



enquiries@bbramblers.org.au

What's on in April:

Thursday 18 Morning - Edna will lead a midweek easy walk from Hurstbridge along the Diamond Creek trail.

Sunday 21 Morning - Combined SOMW and SOHW at the Sugarloaf Reservoir in Christmas Hills. The walk leader is Julie.

Coming up in May:

Sunday 5 Morning - Harvey together with Irena are scheduled to lead a Medium walk.

Wednesday 15 Morning - Fairlie and Dennis will lead a midweek walk.

Sunday 26 Morning - Joshua will lead a hard walk.

MELBOURNE LODGE NO 1547

President: Danielle Schilling

Vice-President: Morris Tobias

Preview: Dr John Kohn

What's on in April:

Monday 8 7:30pm - **Programming meeting** at the Newhouse home.

Thursday 4 3:30pm - **Executive meeting** .

Wednesday 10 7:30pm - **Regular meeting**. Guest speaker Jenny Ginsberg. Topic: "Fight and Return of Danish Jews 1943-1945."

Coming up in May:

Tuesday 7- 9 May Bookings now closed for bus trip to Gippsland. 34 members coming. Please note final payment due before 8 April.

PAST EVENTS :

5 March: Outing to Studley Park Boat House

A very pleasant luncheon gathering saw 33 members enjoy a convivial day out in a glorious riverside setting. Some members arrived in the Glen Eira Council bus driven by Leon Nissen who had volunteered to help out.

13 March: Regular Meeting

Over 60 members heard Peter Gaspar OAM give a very interesting talk about his visit to schools and universities in Hong Kong. As a Holocaust survivor, his precious testimony would help educate young and old. Peter was also invited as a keynote speaker to give a talk at the UN Holocaust's 2024 Memorial Day Commemoration in HK, which was very well received.

Mazel Tov:

Garry and Evelyn Fabian on the birth of a great grandson Bobby. Garry also turned 90!
Cera and Harry Newhouse on the birth of a great granddaughter Kathryn.
David Lewis on his 90th birthday!

Welfare of Members:

Sad News - Death of Jeffrey Shapiro's brother-in-law in the UK.
We wish a Refuah Shleima to any members who may be unwell.

* Margaret Masur made a donation to MAD in honour of the 90th birthday of David Lewis.

OUT AND ABOUT

Gesher Rabin and Akiba Weekend Away

The weekend of 1 March saw the two units descend on Castelmaine for a get away.

After checking into our respective accommodation and meet and greet we had a Shabbat dinner at the local hotel. The next 3 days saw a range of activities such as a guided tour of the township and its history, a tour of the Gallery, a walk in the Botanical gardens and a scrumptious lunch at the Austrian cafe. Of course we also visited cafes and 2 pubs for our meals. The Saturday night pub provided music where a surprising amount of dance floor talent was displayed by our group.

Akiba has a new Fred Astaire in Henry Winfield!!!

Thank you Jack Aghion, Henry Winfield and the team for organising.

Old friends caught up, new friendships forged and it was indeed a fun weekend.

We are already thinking about next year so any ideas you may have would be appreciated.



Gesher Rabin and Akiba Weekend Away



Gesher Rabin Purim Spiel



OUT AND ABOUT

Melbourne Lodge Studley Park Boathouse Lunch



*Click on the image to
donate*

Israel at War -
B'nai B'rith Israel Appeal



COURAGE TO CARE UPDATE



We have some exciting news to share with you.

As part of our agreement with the Victoria Department of Education we have created an online (remote) program offering for when delivering our Upstander programs in person is not practical.

In partnership with cool.org, we have launched our Teacher Upstander Lesson Plans. These six lesson plans are available to teachers all over Australia for free! We created these to be used in Victoria and were able to make them available to teachers across Australia at no additional cost.

cool.org is a not-for profit organisation dedicated to creating real-world, curriculum-aligned teaching resources that equip educators to 'teach the stuff that matters', creating better outcomes for humanity.

You can access these Lesson Plans directly via the link on our [website](#).

This will not replace our face-to-face programs, but rather act as a complementary resource. Our commitment to offering face-to-face programs is unwavering and adding this online resource with nationwide access for teachers and students is a wonderful step forward.

Courage to Care is now more determined than ever to forge ahead with our mission to create a generation of Upstanders against prejudice and discrimination.

Mike Zervos, CEO

HAPPY PESACH!

Wishing you and your family a happy and enjoyable Pesach

CHAG SAMEACH



UPCOMING EVENTS

B'NAI B'RITH MELBOURNE LODGE

GUIDED TOUR OF THE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE

A wonderful opportunity to visit one of Melbourne's treasures.

Historian and writer Gary Fabian OAM will lead a guided tour of the Shrine and explain the secrets of its construction and bring to us the memory of those who have fallen for our country.

Public transport available from Caulfield and Toorak. Carpooling available.

The event is free of charge.

RSVP necessary.

THURSDAY 6 JUNE
10:30AM

BOOKINGS: Danielle Schilling 0408 128 639 /
danielle@the-schillings.com



B'NAI B'RITH HATIKVAH UNIT

MUSICAL AFTERNOON

Entertainment by Sibling Revelry

Come along to listen, singalong
and even dance along!
Musicians will even take requests!

Cost: \$35 includes three raffle tickets.

Venue: Leo Baeck Centre- 31-37 Harp Rd, East Kew

Scrumptious afternoon tea.

Proceeds to Israel to support the current situation.

SUNDAY 16 JUNE
2:00 - 5:00PM

BOOKINGS: Orly Dar 9850 5623 or pay directly to Hatikvah Acct
BSB: 083218 Account: 854465530



APRIL 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Apr Easter Monday Public Holiday: Office Closed	2	3 9:00am Akiba Mid-Week Matters - Walk and Lunch (Cranbourne Gardens)	4 10:00am VBBC Meeting (Large board room) - WebEvents 11:30am Presidents&Treasurer	5	6 7:00pm GRU Movie Night	7 9:30am Calico Dolls 3:00pm Human Rights Oration with Adam Butt (Caulfield Town Hall)
8 3:30pm Melbourne Lodge Executive Meeting	9 10:00am Armchair Society Series 1 10:30am Akiba Outing to Royal Botanical Gardens (Botanical	10 7:00pm ML Regular Meeting 8:00pm Hatikvah Activities Meeting	11	12	13	14
15	16 10:00am Book Launch: The Wild Date Palm by Diane Armstrong	17 7:00pm Hatikvah Executive meeting	18 Ramblers walk	19	20	21 Ramblers walk 11:00am GRU Coffee & Chat (Umbrella) 7:30pm Akiba Regular Meeting
22	23 Pesach 1 6:00pm GRU Seder Night	24 Pesach 2	25 Pesach 3 10:30am Hatikvah Anzac Day Walk	26 Pesach 4	27 Pesach 5	28 Pesach 6
Office closed 22 April. Re-opening 6 May						
29 Pesach 7	30 Pesach 8 Yom Hazikaron	1 May	2	3	4	5
Office closed 22 April. Re-opening 6 May						

MAY 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
29 Apr	30	1 May 9:00am Akiba Visit to Bendigo Art Gallery (Bendigo Art Gallery 42 View Street, Bendigo Victoria)	2	3	4	5 11:00am GRU visit to Forest Glade Gardens
6 Yom HaShoah 3:30pm Melbourne Lodge Executive Meeting	7 Melbourne Lodge Trip- Sale/Gippsland 10:00am Armchair Society Series 2	8 8:00pm Hatikvah Activities Meeting	9	10	11 6:00pm Akiba - Theatre production of Billy Elliot	12
13 Yom Hazikaron 7:00pm Zionism Victoria Yom Hazikaron 7:30pm Akiba Exec meeting	14 Yom Haatzmaut	15 7:00pm ML Regular meeting	16 8:00pm Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club	17	18	19 11:00am GRU Coffee & Chat (Umbrella Lounge Bar (338-340) 7:30pm Akiba Regular Meeting
20 2:30pm Fellowship Concert	21 10:00am Armchair Society Series 2	22 7:00pm Israel Unlocked Series (BW Conference room 7:00pm Hatikvah Executive meeting	23	24	25 7:00pm GRU Dinner (Brighton Beach Hotel)	26 2:00pm Akiba Planning meeting 8:00pm Hatikvah Regular meeting
27	28	29 7:00pm Israel Unlocked Series (BW Conference room booked)	30	31	1 Jun	2

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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