



B'NAI B'RITH PREVIEW



Message from the Vice President... on the university crisis



You will be aware of the problem facing a number of Australian universities – a problem long in the making and one that is not likely to be resolved in the short term.

Mark Leibler, speaking in his capacity as a member of the Council of the University of Melbourne, observed that “from my own direct experience speaking with students and staff, there is not a shadow of a doubt ... that there is an antisemitism crisis taking place on our campus”.

There has been a long running BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) campaign which has been effective in spreading the Palestinian narrative and blocking critical thought. The renowned author Sir Salman Rushdie recently stated in an interview that it is strange that progressive youth support a “fascist terrorist group” like Hamas ... If there were a Palestinian state now, it would be run by Hamas and we would have a Taliban-like state. A satellite state of Iran. Is this what the progressive movements of the Western Left want to create?”

Alan Finkel, formerly Chancellor of Monash University, wrote in an opinion piece in The Age that “students have a right to protest. Peacefully. On campus. Free speech is central to the ethos of a university... But there is no excuse for occupying buildings, blocking research or disrupting lectures. Antisemitism will not be tolerated.” Yet this is exactly what has been allowed to happen.

The University of Sydney, a hotbed of protest, tolerated a situation in which visitors from Tel Aviv University were prevented from speaking. La Trobe University instructed its staff that “If protesters enter your classes, we ask that you refrain from intervening and allow them to share the information they wish to”. There was no ensuring that protesters’ statements were challenged by alternative viewpoints. Henry Ergas responded in The Australian that “It is hard to imagine a greater affront to the academic ethos. Taxpayers do not fund universities so that students can be subjected to compulsory indoctrination”.

A Monash University student, commenting on her campus experience, noted that Palestinian advocates “call us Jewish students ‘genocide lovers’, they yell ‘how many kids have you killed today’, they shout to ‘Free Palestine’ and ‘from the river to the sea’, a statement which calls for the eradication of Israel”. The intimidation extends to social media encouragement to follow “Zionists” to their cars and to their homes.

A number of community organisations are doing what they can to combat antisemitism. You will be pleased to hear that the B’nai B’rith Australia and New Zealand Board Governors at its meeting on 6 May resolved to establish a committee to combat antisemitism. Actions that can be taken will be further considered, but they include letters to political leaders drawing their attention to the issues facing our community.

Andrew Markus
Vice President

Members and Friends of B'nai B'rith Victoria acknowledge the Boon wurrung people of the Eastern Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet.

Lessons from Tarnac to Tel Aviv



Eighty years ago B'nai B'rith started in Australia when Sydney Lodge was inaugurated, consisting mainly of German and Austrian refugees and immigrants – many of them Holocaust survivors. To commemorate this event and celebrate their achievements a Gala Dinner has been organised in Sydney which Denise and I will be proud to attend on behalf of B'nai B'rith Australia New Zealand.

A few weeks ago I attended a different 80 year commemoration. This occurred in a rural village called Tarnac in southern France where the townspeople remembered the terrible events in April 1944 when the Nazis entered the town, chose the Jews for execution or deportation – including my two maternal grandparents. The Tarnac town people turned this anniversary into a wonderful community event with VIPs, TV and newspaper journalists reporting it to the country. Somehow the Jewish people survived the war. Like we do in B'nai B'rith, we remember the past, can proudly celebrate our achievements and still have a fierce confidence and hope for the future.

The increasing antisemitism in Western countries since October 7th has taken us all by surprise. I suspect that it portends a decline of Western civilisation. The pervasive anti -Israel and anti -Jew hatred is probably a way of blaming Jews instead of other parts of society for various problems including lack of meaning and lack of articulation of the benefits of liberal democratic societies. I would not be surprised if Russia, China and Muslim ideologues have all played a part in this attempt at bringing down the successful capitalistic West.

We will need to remain strong and united to deal with this problem of antisemitism. BBANZ decided at its May meeting to set up an advocacy arm to complement the good work done by the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ) and its state counterparts such as the JCCV (we are members of both organisations). We plan to write and lobby decision makers to act on Jew- hatred and anti-Israel bias in Australia. If you want to help, please let me know.

I have kept in touch with Bnai Brith in Israel. They remain resilient and are grateful for the \$100,000 we have sent them six months ago. The money was used for providing some of the basic needs of the soldiers and to assist displaced civilians in Israel. If you can continue your support – by donating via B'nai B'rith or the Israel Commission, it would be greatly valued.

Ilan Shchori from the BB Israel Executive has informed me that he has kept sane during the war by writing a book about Tel Aviv. It includes information on B'nai B'rith. The book launch was reported in the Jerusalem Post and this article (in English) is linked [here](#) for your reading.

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



BETH WEIZMANN
מרכז קהילתי בית וויצמן
Jewish Community Centre

Lamm Jewish
Library of
Australia
LJLA



B'nai
B'rith

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

B'NAI B'RITH

MELBOURNE LODGE 1547

invites all members and friends to a

Special Screening of 'Mr Blake At Your Service'

One of the highlights of the French Film Festival

Cast: John Malkowitch, Fanny Ardant, Emilie Dequenne, Philippe Bas, Eugenie Anselin

Malkowitch's brilliant underrated style is on full display as he takes on the charming British businessman Andrew Blake. In a twist of fate, Blake becomes the butler of the domaine de Beauvillier estate, owned by the graceful and aloof Madame de Beauvillier. A once distinguished manor house, the estate is now a shadow of itself with rooms, staff and residents all longing for better days. This humorous film explores culture clashes, unexpected friendships and second chances at happiness.

2:00pm - Afternoon Tea Buffet

3:00pm sharp - Movie Screening

Venue: Classic Cinema, Elsternwick

Cost: \$25

All proceeds go
towards the
Israel Commission



SUNDAY 9 JUNE, 2:00PM

EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/MR-BLAKE

www.bnaibrith.org.au

admin@bbvic.org.au



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.

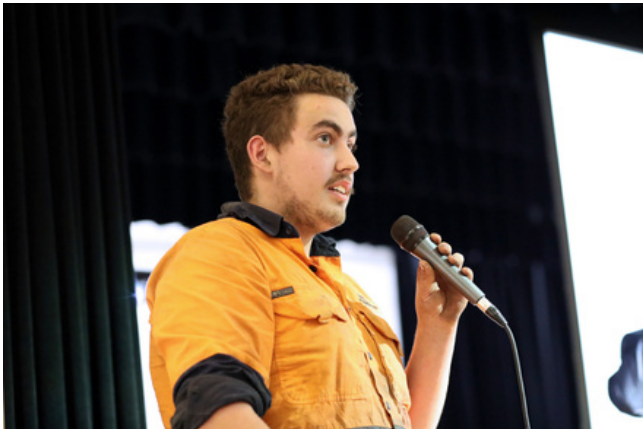
**SUNDAY 16 JUNE
2:00 - 5:00PM**

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



HUMAN RIGHTS ORATION

Barrister Adam Butt delivered the 2024 B'nai B'rith Human Rights Oration to a full auditorium at the Glen Eira Town Hall. As the recipient of the 2024 B'nai B'rith Human Rights Award, Adam spoke eloquently about the challenges and highlights of his successful litigation in two significant pro bono cases in the areas of Indigenous Land Rights and Human Rights.







Armchair Society with Geneticist, Dr Martin Delatycki AM



OUT AND ABOUT

Fellowship Concert

B'nai B'rith Fellowship held a very successful concert at the Glen Eira McKinnon Bowls Club on May 20. Approximately 80 people had a fabulous time singing & dancing along with multi-talented singer, dancer & saxophonist, Brendon Scott.



Irene Gold (middle), turning 101 this year, dances up a storm!



UPCOMING EVENTS

B'NAI B'RITH UNIT AKIBA AGM

The AGM will be followed by a Zoom presentation by
PROFESSOR JUDITH RUDERMAN
Visiting Scholar of English at Duke University
Durham, North Carolina.

TOPIC: "The Jewish Mother in Jewish American
Literature and Culture".

VENUE: Helen Fisher's home.

Please bring a small plate to share for supper and a folding chair.

Contact: Suzanne Goldin 0414 313 136
suzannegoldin@yahoo.com



SUNDAY 23 JUNE, 7:30PM

www.bnaibrith.org.au

admin@bbvic.org.au



B'NAI B'RITH GESHER RABIN INSTALLATION & AGM

GUEST SPEAKER: ZACHARY GOMO

Born and raised in Australia, Zac studied in the Gush Yeshiva and then served in the Israeli Air Force, before returning to Australia to complete 2 Master degrees in education.

Installing Officers: Simone Markus and Jacqui Dinor-Corry
Don't forget to submit your nominations by 24 June

COST: \$25 p/p

Profits will be matched and sent to the Israel Commission

VENUE: Glen Eira McKinnon Bowls Club, Tyrone St, Ormond

CONTACT: Sue Moskowitz - suem181@gmail.com / 0430 107 372



SUNDAY 7 JULY, 7:00PM

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/GRUAGM](https://tinyurl.com/GRUAGM)

www.bnaibrith.org.au

admin@bbvic.org.au



Click [HERE](#) for the nomination form

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERS AND UNITS ARE THE HEART AND SOUL OF B'NAI B'RITH.

Current members would already know this, but this publication is available on our website and made available at all B'nai B'rith functions, so it is important for us all to remember and acknowledge that membership with B'nai B'rith is extremely fulfilling and rewarding.

Not only do members feel a social connectedness through their affiliation, but they become a valued contributor by supporting and delivering projects that Strengthen Jewish Life through volunteering and/or fund raising.

The four existing units have members ranging from 65 years young with a variety of passion projects and social activities and all are very welcoming and friendly.

Being affiliated to one unit provides a 'home base' of sorts, but all members are invited to and welcome at all functions, no matter which unit is hosting or organising it.

All units raise funds for the B'nai B'rith Israel Commission which supports five specific projects in Israel as well as other organisations and projects.

You can become a member of B'nai B'rith as either a member at large, join one of the five existing units, or start a unit with a group of your friends or colleagues.

To find out more about membership, you can download an information booklet [here](#) or go to the website at www.bnaibrith.org.au/victoria



B'NAI B'RITH JEWISH YOUTH ART COMPETITION

- * Exhibition opens on Friday 7 June through Sunday 30 June.
- * Browse the 200+ magnificent artworks on display
- * Vote for your favourite artwork with the inaugural People's Choice Award!
- * The Awards Ceremony will be held on Sunday 30 June at 2:00pm.

We look forward to seeing you!

B'NAI B'RITH 29TH JEWISH YOUTH ART COMPETITION EXHIBITION NOW OPEN

Glen Eira Town Hall Gallery

More than 200 artworks from young
Jewish artists from Years 6 - 12!

Vote for your favourite artwork with
the inaugural People's Choice Award!



Painting credit:
'Phoebe'
By Le-Em Fridman

EXHIBITION OPEN 7 - 30 JUNE

AWARD CEREMONY 30 JUNE, 2PM

CONTACT US: (03) 9523 0888 | artcomp@bbvic.org.au | www.bnaibrith.org.au



B'nai
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WITH THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



UNIT AKIBA

GESHER-RABIN UNIT

HATIKVAH UNIT

MELBOURNE LODGE 1547

GESHER-RABIN UNIT

Co-Presidents: Karin Zafir / Leon Nissen

Secretary: Sue Moskowitz

Preview: Karin Zafir

Welcome to new member Sally Gleitman!

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 June:

Sunday 16 11:00am - **Members' coffee and chat** get together at the Umbrella Lounge, 338-340 Glenhuntly Rd, Elsternwick. Speaker Serge Lieberman: Israel today
RSVP Eleanor by 9 June.

Saturday 22 **Movie Night TBA**
Contact Lillian or Leon for more details.

Coming up in July:

Sunday 7 7:00pm - **Installation and AGM** at McKinnon Bowls. Don't forget to get your nominations in by 24 June. **Guest speaker Zach Gomo.** He was born and raised in Australia. He studied in the Gush Yeshiva and then served in the Israeli air force, before returning to Australia to complete 2 Master degrees in education. A big thank you to Simone Markus for being our installing officer.
Please nominate yourself, or a friend to be on our committee. Click [here](#) for the nomination form.
\$25 per person. Contact Sue
Bookings: <https://tinyurl.com/gruagm>

Sunday 21 11:00am - **Members' coffee and chat** get together at the Umbrella Lounge.
Guest Speaker Anthony Sim will speak about establishing a Ballarat farmers orphanage in Kenya, which saved many children and sharing farming equipment with the people of Kenya. Lunch can be ordered during or afterwards. RSVP Eleanor

Sunday 28 **Bunnings Sausage Sizzle.** Members are encouraged to help raise money for charity at this annual successful event. If you are interested in helping, please contact Evelyn.

The following members celebrate their birthdays in June:

Fred Landberg (4th), Frank Newman (4th), Brian Schauer (5th), Lillian Oblat (8th), Sarah Jarny (10th), Lee Silman (15th), Sandy Kaplan (26th), Allan Bernhardt (27th)

Condolences to Sue Moskowitz, on the passing of her mother.

UNIT AKIBA

President: Henry Winfield

Secretary: Annette Gladwin

Preview: Annette Harriott

What's on in June:

Saturday 1

8:00pm - **Theatre Night** to see **Rootless Cosmopolitans**, a play by Ron Elisha. At Chapel off Chapel, The Loft 12 Little Chapel Street, Prahran. Book your own tickets [HERE](#). Queries- contact Annette

Wednesday 19

12:30pm - **Chat n Chew** to be held at Glasshouse Bistro, Station Street Caulfield North (Caulfield Racecourse). Parking is available across the road in fenced carpark. RSVP to Miriam

Sunday 23

7:30pm - **AGM meeting** with guest speaker Professor Judith Ruderman, Visiting Scholar of English at Duke University, North Carolina will be on Zoom. Judith's presentation is "The Jewish Mother in Jewish American Literature and Culture". Held at Helen Fisher place. Please bring a small plate to share for supper and a folding chair. Inquiries- contact Suzanne

Monday 27

1:45pm - **Excursion to the Holocaust Centre**, 13 Selwyn St, Elsternwick. We will be having a private tour of 60 mins called "Everybody has a name". Cost \$28 adult, \$22 concession. Please contact Miriam for more details. PLEASE BE PUNCTUAL ON ARRIVAL as we have to check in and be ready for our guide. Please ADHERE TO RSVP DATE - 19/6.

Coming up in July:

Wednesday 17

11:00am - **Visit to National Gallery of Victoria**, St Kilda Road to see the Pharoah Exhibition. Please book your own ticket online for 11am time slot. Lunch venue TBA. RSVP by 10/7 to Miriam

Thursday 18

8:00 - 9:30pm - **Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club**. Featuring "A Brilliant Life: My Mothers Inspiring Story" by R. Unreich. Will be presented by the Author. Please contact Peter Schattner at nonfiction@bbvic.org.au for more information.

Sunday 21

6:30pm - **Installation Dinner** at Glen Eira & McKinnon Bowls Club. Israeli style Kosher Dinner. \$45/ per person. Guest Speaker is Robert Schneider, CEO of Friends of Hebrew University. Topic is 'The Hebrew University- The University of the Jewish People'. Flyer and Trybooking link will be sent shortly.

The following members celebrate their birthdays in June:

Benny Monheit (5th), Tanya Tescher (13th), Mary Klein (18th), Denise Le Bransky (25th).

HATIKVAH UNIT

President: Claude Fromm

Vice-President: Orly Dar

Preview: Judith Steinberg

What's on in June:

- Sunday 2 June** 9:30 - 11:30am - **Calico Dolls**. Please let Gerry know if you are coming.
- Sunday 16 June** 2:00 - 5:00pm - **Hatikvah Fundraiser** – a musical afternoon with entertainment by Sibling Revelry. Lovely afternoon tea and raffle. \$35 pp which includes 3 raffle tickets. All monies raised will be donated to Israel. See flyer on page 4 for booking details.
- Sunday 30 June** 8:00pm - **Regular meeting at Leo Baeck Centre**. David Jenz will be running a current affairs discussion evening.

Happy birthday to our members who celebrate their birthdays in June:

Iain Messer (2nd); Alan Harvey (8th) and Sol.

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 June:

- Sunday 2** Morning - Evelyn will lead this SOMW walk in Mt Dom Dom, the Heritage Track.
- Wednesday 19** Morning - Easy midweek walk from Darebin to LaTrobe will be led by Rodney.
- Sunday 23** Morning - The SOHW walk along the Morley Walking Track in the Yarra Ranges will be led by Saul.

MELBOURNE LODGE NO 1547

President: Danielle Schilling

Vice-President: Morris Tobias

Preview: Dr John Kohn

Welcome to new members Jules and Corrine Gaddie!

What's on in June:

- Monday 3** 7:30pm - **Programming meeting** at Janet's place .
- Thursday 6** 10:30am - **Guided Shrine Tour** by Garry Fabian OAM. See flyer on page 3.
- Sunday 9** 2:00pm - **Film Fundraiser** at the Classic. Special screening of French comedy 'Mr Blake at your Service'. Afternoon tea buffet at 2pm and movie screening at 3pm. Proceeds to Israel Commission. See flyer on page 4 for more details.
Click [here](#) to book.
- Wednesday 19** 2:00pm - **Regular meeting** at Beth Weizmann. Please note this meeting is an **afternoon** meeting. Guest speaker Jeffrey Pang on "Hearing and Brain Health".

PAST EVENTS:

10 April: Our guest speaker Jenny Ginsberg gave a very interesting and moving account of the "Flight and Return of Danish Jews -1943-1945".



A hearty Mazel Tov to members who are celebrating their birthdays in June and some for May which were not included in last Preview:

May: Naomi Alberts (4th), Robyn Goldman, John Kohn (3rd), Janet Machliss Kohn (9th), Marilyn Mandie (16th), Diane Orner

June: Fairlie Nassau (4th), David Boymal (20th), Kathy Franks (20th), Tony Weldon (21st), Anna Gdanski (22nd), Margaret Fischer (23rd), Jeffrey Shapiro, Brian Shauer.

We wish a Refuah Shleima to any of our members with health issues, or who have been unwell and may have had or about to have medical procedures.

DONATIONS TO "MAKING A DIFFERENCE" ARE NOW TAX DEDUCTIBLE:

DONATE NOW on the B'nai B'rith Website [here](http://www.bnaibrith.org.au/victoria) (www.bnaibrith.org.au/victoria)

Select "[Making a Difference](#)".

OUT AND ABOUT

Melbourne Lodge Sale & Gippsland Bus Tour

Melbourne Lodge's bus trip to Gippsland in May was a great success! With thanks to the excellent planning by Jacqui and Danielle and our highly competent and friendly bus driver and guide, our members enjoyed good weather, food and accommodation. On the packed schedule was a lovely river cruise, a visit to the Gippsland Art Gallery to the Annemieke Mein OAM Exhibition, the Gippsland Vehicle Collection Motor Museum, the John Brady's Chainsaw Sculpture Gallery and a train trip to the Walhalla Goldfields. Members enjoyed the convivial atmosphere and were able to chat and intermingle.







COURAGE TO CARE UPDATE



Courage to Care Annual Review Now Available

We are pleased to be share our latest Annual Review. This highlights our activity during 2023 and sets out our plans for 2024. Printed copies are available from the office or click [HERE](#) for a link

Alkira Secondary College 11th Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony

This was such a special occasion with students reflecting on the importance of remembering. This year was particularly poignant with students noting the increasing need for tolerance and understanding. Both Les Kausman OAM and Peter Gaspar OAM presented on behalf of Courage to Care. It was so pleasing to have Vivienne Nguyen AM Chair of the Victoria Multicultural Commission join us. Leaders from both Brighton and McKinnon Secondary Colleges attended.



Mike Zervos, CEO

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Featuring "A Brilliant Life: My Mother's Inspiring Story of Surviving the Holocaust" by Rachelle Unreich.

We are privileged to have the author herself present the book at our book club.

The book is a powerful, true story of a Holocaust survivor told by her daughter – a tale that reminds us of the resilience of the soul and the ability of the heart to heal. Mira is nearing the end of her life and her daughter Rachelle wants to find out how her mother had lived through four concentration camps, including Auschwitz, and a Death March.

A Brilliant Life portrays not only how remote a prospect it was to live through the Holocaust, but what it is like to be the child of a survivor.



THURSDAY 18 JULY 2024, 8:00-9:30pm

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



JUNE 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
27 May	28	29	30	31	1 Jun 8:00pm Akiba Theatre Night	2 Ramblers walk 9:30am Calico Dolls
3 7:30pm ML Programming mtg	4 10:00am Armchair Society Series 2	5	6 10:30am ML Shrine Tour 3:30pm Melbourne Lodge Executive Meeting	7 Art Competition Exhibition (Glen Eira Town Hall (Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield Victoria 3162, Australia))	8	9 2:00pm Melbourne Lodge Movie Fundraiser
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Art Competition Exhibition (Glen Eira Town Hall (Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield Victoria 3162, Australia))						
King's Birthday	Erev Shavuot	Shavuot 1	Shavuot 2			2:00pm Hatikvah Fundraiser (Leo Baeck Centre (31-37 Harp 7:30pm Akiba Regular Meeting
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Art Competition Exhibition (Glen Eira Town Hall (Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield Victoria 3162, Australia))						
	10:00am Armchair Society Series 2	Ramblers walk 12:30pm Akiba Chat n Chew 1:30pm Melbourne Lodge Meeting				Ramblers walk 7:30pm Akiba AGM
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Art Competition Exhibition (Glen Eira Town Hall (Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield Victoria 3162, Australia))						
	Melbourne Lodge - Bendigo Gallery (Paris: Impressions of Life)	7:00pm Hatikvah Executive meeting	1:30pm Akiba Holocaust Centre Visit			2:00pm Art Competition Award Ceremony 8:00pm Hatikvah Regular meeting

HAPPY SHAVUOT!

Wishing you and your family a happy and enjoyable holiday

CHAG SAMEACH



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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