



B'NAI B'RITH PREVIEW



Message from the President... the need to stand with Israel



I was recently lucky enough to have travelled overseas. I went to Italy, Portugal and Israel, and given that the Portuguese trip was a Jewish study tour and Israel was and is in the midst of a war, the trip had a very Jewish perspective.

While in Italy, I happened to come across a beautiful synagogue in Modena, near Bologna. This was built in 1873 and is located in one of Modena's main squares.

However, there are probably less than 60 Jews left in Modena now, and they are mainly elderly, with there having been around 500 just prior to WW2 and around 1,500 during the Middle Ages. There was a similar story in Bologna. We stayed next to the old ghetto area which now houses a Jewish museum. It relates the history of the thriving Jewish community during the medieval period but which has now completely disappeared.

The tour of Portugal was even more depressing as the Jews in that country were either expelled in the 15th century or left in subsequent centuries as conversos ('New Christians'). In 1496 there were probably 200,000 Jews in Portugal but now there are around 2,000.

Unfortunately, this is the story of Jewish Europe, and indeed of our people more generally. Israel, which is supposed to be our place of refuge, is now threatened by extremists in a war of survival. After being depressed in Europe, I spent two weeks in Israel, encouraged by the mood of resilience. The resolve to get the hostages back was very moving (see the memorial at Dizengoff Square pictured left). I attended two huge rallies in 'Hostage Square' in Tel Aviv, with the second rally having 150,000 people standing in the streets around the main platform.



I met Ilan Shchori, B'nai B'rith Israel's chief representative for international matters (pictured right). He was very grateful for the tremendous financial support of nearly \$100,000 that B'nai B'rith in Australia and New Zealand has provided. B'nai B'rith Israel has used this money to give hands-on support for the Israelis displaced from their homes from the Gaza envelope and the communities in the north. This assistance includes household items, including laptops for school-age children, as the families had to flee and leave everything behind.



My trip to Europe reminded me, not that I needed it, of our need to remain steadfast in our support of Israel. Am Yisrael Chai.

Peter Schattner, President

Message from BBANZ President



Thank you to the many people who sent me Get Well wishes during my recent hospitalization. I feel much improved but am not quite back to normal activities. Hence this short report only.

Well done to the team putting on the wonderful B'nai B'rith Art Competition and also to Ron James whose Armchair Society events have been consistently such crowd drawers. These are two key Victorian projects.

Our roof body BBANZ has been involved in the past month in looking how we can play our role in overcoming rising antisemitism. The violent destruction of Josh Burns's parliamentary office in St Kilda this week has brought the problem to our front doorstep. As Josh Frydenberg advised the community in his talk at TBI, "become more active". We feel our member's role can be to lobby for harmony in Australia and to support strong action by police and our judicial system where laws are breached on the streets, on university campuses and workplaces. I encourage you to write to community leaders individually. I know some of you have already started that. Kol Hakavod- especially to Jack Bar-Ness and Annette Gladwin OAM. In addition BBANZ will lobby on behalf of all of Bnai Brith in a more formal fashion.

Another area I have been involved in is a BBANZ project called Click and Connect. On a weekly basis, volunteers from B'nai B'rith in Melbourne and Sydney link in via Zoom from their home to designated schools in Israel. Students there are keen to increase their English verbal skills to advance in higher learning and more schools want to join the program. If this activity appeals to you contact Anita Bass or Denise Monheit (contact details via the office). Volunteers report that they find the direct contact experience very satisfying and often full of fun and surprises. You don't have to be a trained teacher to participate- just a good talker and listener.

Benny Monheit
President, BBANZ

UPCOMING EVENTS

B'NAI B'RITH FELLOWSHIP CONCERT

Featuring

Soprano Dr Elizabeth Finkel AM
Classical Pianist Alan Kogosowski

Venue:

Glen Eira McKinnon Bowling Club
Tyrone St, Ormond

Time:

2:30pm

Cost:

\$10 entry includes afternoon tea & a raffle ticket

MONDAY 1 JULY 2024

BOOKINGS: Deidre 0408 121 213



Proudly supported by

9523 0888 | www.bnaibrith.org.au



Armchair Society with Jeff Kennett AC

Jeff Kennett's talk on June 18 drew our largest crowd yet with standing room only!

Jeff talked about politics and the various key figures involved. He addressed the significant financial crisis with the railways, highlighting the widespread mismanagement of funds and the enormous debt in Victoria. He also mentioned the financial hardships that many Australians are currently facing. Briefly touching on antisemitism, Jeff condemned the government's actions, stating that it should never have reached this point.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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.



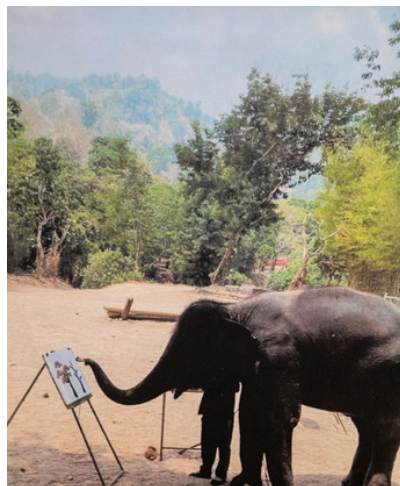
THURSDAY 18 JULY 2024, 8:00-9:30pm

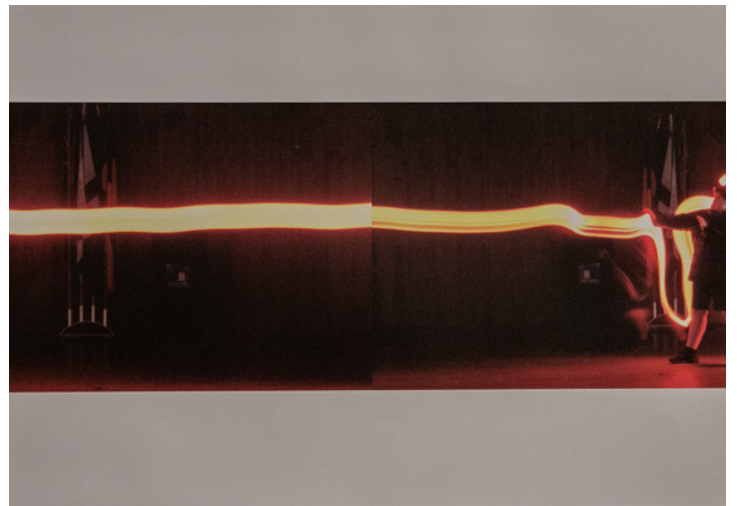
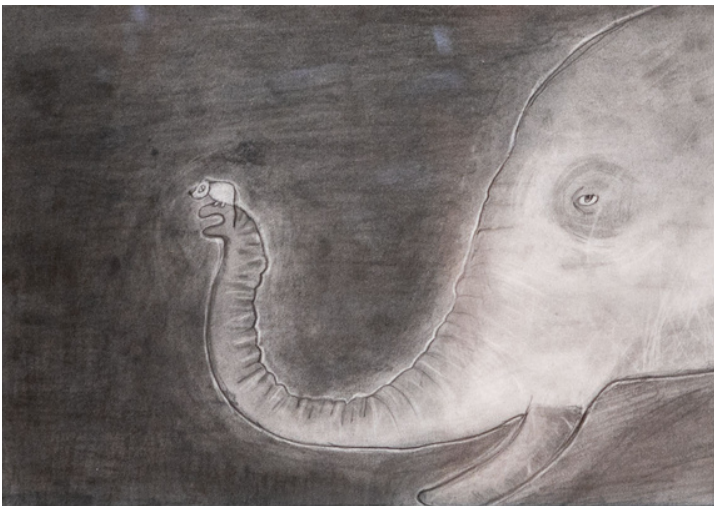
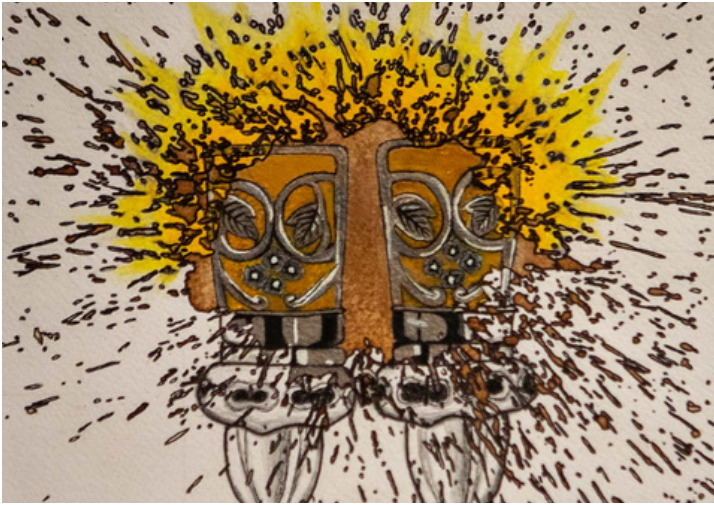
For more information on the book club, or how to obtain the book and for the venue, please contact Peter at non-fiction@bbvic.org.au.



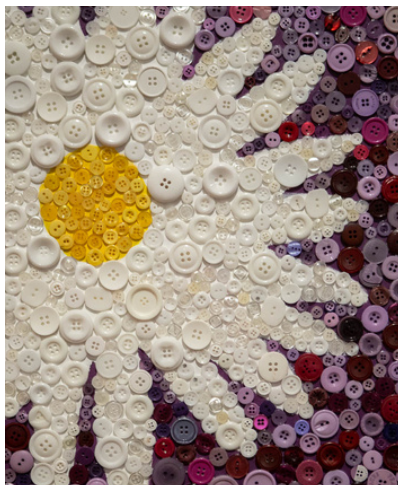
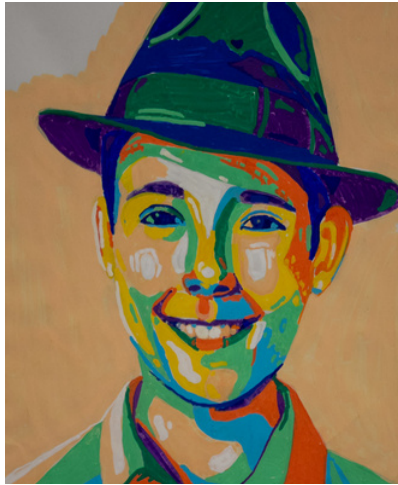
B'NAI B'RITH JEWISH YOUTH ART COMPETITION

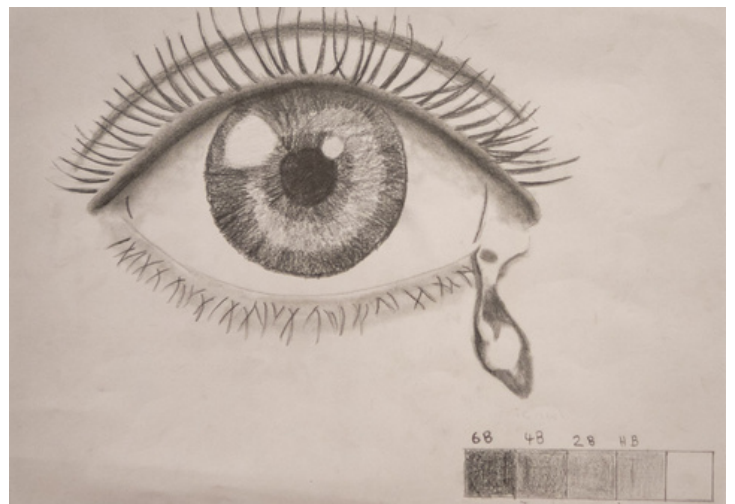
The 29th Annual B'nai B'rith Jewish Youth Art Competition was a resounding success! Over 200 pieces of magnificent artwork were submitted, ranging from paintings and drawings, sculpture, photography, mixed media and portraiture and caricature. The Exhibition was truly an impressive display of the immense talent in our community. We thank all our members who went to visit the Gallery and those who volunteered their time to help. A complete list of the winners can be found on our website as well as a slideshow of all the artwork. We have included some photos in this edition for your viewing pleasure!

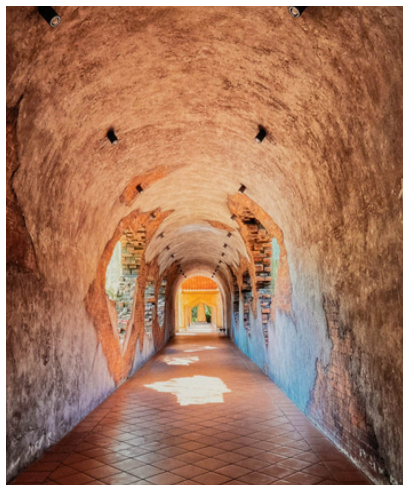












NEW SERIES!

B'NAI B'RITH ARMCHAIR SOCIETY

In partnership with the Lamm Jewish
Library of Australia

Hosted by Ron James



5 PART FORTNIGHTLY SERIES

Featuring fascinating guest speakers at each session

JULY 23 - EMERITUS PROF LEON PITERMAN AM

AUGUST 6 - BRIDGET MCKENZIE

AUGUST 20 - LYDIA KHALIL

SEPTEMBER 3 - HAMISH ROTSTEIN

SEPTEMBER 17 - ASSOC PROF ADIVA SIFRIS



**SERIES TICKETS \$40
OR \$10 PER SESSION**

Venue to be advised upon booking

TUESDAYS, 10:00AM - 12:00PM

[EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/AS3](https://events.humanitix.com/as3)

9523 0888 | www.bnaibrith.org.au



OUT AND ABOUT



Dr John Kohn presenting at a Melbourne Lodge meeting



Shrine Tour



UPCOMING EVENTS

B'NAI B'RITH MELBOURNE LODGE NO 1547



Members and friends are invited to a **special Israel fundraiser**

AMAZING JAZZ WITH A JEWISH TWIST

Featuring:

The Erez Trio - Josh Moshe, Daniel Mougernan, Simon Starr

The Melbourne Klezmer Quartet - Amy Zakar Banner, Josh Moshe, Adam Starr, Simon Starr

Cost: \$50 includes Afternoon Tea - with all proceeds to support the Israel Commission

With thanks to our generous sponsors: TBI, the Musicians, to Catch a Chef

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

SUNDAY 7 JULY, 2:30 - 5:30PM

EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/JAZZ

www.bnaibrith.org.au

admin@bbvic.org.au



**B'nai
B'rith**

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

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.

Topic: "The obvious solution to the Israel-Palestinian Conflict."

A big thank you to Simone Markus and Jacqui Dinor Corry for being our installing officers.

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 Bendigo 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 by 13 July.

Sunday 28

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle. Members are encouraged to help raise money for charity at this annual successful event. Three more people needed for the 12noon – 2pm timeslot. Please contact Evelyn if you can help.

What's on in August:

Sunday 18

11:00am - **Members' coffee and chat** get together at the Umbrella Lounge.

Guest Speaker Henry Lew will talk about one of his books. Lunch can be ordered during or afterwards. RSVP Eleanor by 10 August.

Saturday 31

7:30pm - **Annual Comedy Debate vs Maccabi Toastmasters.**

Topic: "Mother Knows Best"

The following member celebrates their birthdays in July:

Selwyn Lever (18th)

UNIT AKIBA

President: Henry Winfield

Secretary: Annette Gladwin

Preview: Annette Harriott

Unit Akiba congratulates Annette Gladwin on her Order of Australia Medal for Service to the Jewish Community!

What's on in July:

- Saturday 13** 7:00pm - **Midtown to Memphis Show** at Royal Brighton Yacht Club (253 The Esplanade, Brighton). Book: www.ellasmusicclub.com/motown
Once booked, click on show seating 'Here' and nominate to sit at Miriam's table. Show is \$55/person, dinner at own expense. Let Miriam know you have booked and if you want to join for dinner. RSVP by 6/7 to Miriam
- Wednesday 17** 10:50am - **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'. Book: www.trybooking.com/crwsd

Coming up in August:

- Sunday 21** 7:30pm - **Saltpillar production of "Little Shop of Horrors"**. Phoenix Theatre - 101 Glenhuntly Rd, Elwood. Purchase your own tickets.
- Sunday 18** 7:30pm - Myer Bloom will present his third talk on the Jews of Spain. Meeting will be at Denise's home. Please bring a small plate for supper. Enquiries to Denise.

The following members celebrate their birthdays in June:

Brian Luber (1st), Liz James (8th), Edna Samuel (11th), Henry Gladwin (13th), Richard Neumann (19th), Michael Samuel (24th), Pola Blicblau (31st)

HATIKVAH UNIT

President: Claude Fromm

Vice-President: Orly Dar

Preview: Judith Steinberg

What's on in July:

Sunday 14 July

12:30pm - **Chanukah in July.** Lunch at the Fromm's. Please bring your speciality to share and let Claude know if you are coming.

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

Ros Huze (1st), Betty Alexander (7th), Jeanette Hain (11th), Edna Samuel (20th), Evelyn Moszkovicz (20th), Michael Samuel (24th)

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 July:

Sunday 7

Morning - Evelyn will lead this medium walk from Murrumbeena to Box Hill through urban forests and parks.

Wednesday 17

Morning - Easy midweek walk along the Yarra from Flinders St station to Hawthorn station will be led by Irena.

Sunday 28

Morning - Eitan is hoping there will be plenty of snow so he can lead a hard walk in snow country. No details yet.

MELBOURNE LODGE NO 1547

President: Danielle Schilling

Vice-President: Morris Tobias

Preview: Dr John Kohn

What's on in July:

- Monday 1** 7:30pm - **Programming meeting** at Jacqui's place
- Thursday 4** 3:00pm - **Executive Meeting** at Beth Weizmann (note earlier start).
- Sunday 7** 2:30 - 5:00pm - **An afternoon of amazing Jazz with a Jewish twist.**
Featuring the Erez Trio and the Melbourne Klezmer Quartet.
Catering by To Catch a Chef. Venue- TBI. \$50 p/p. Proceeds to Israel Commission. See flyer on page 13 for more details. **Click [here](#) to book.**
- Wednesday 10** 7:30pm - **Regular meeting**
Guest speaker Rachelle Unreich, author of "A Brilliant Life".

PAST EVENTS:

15 May: Regular meeting where Dr John Kohn gave an interesting talk reviewing the important milestones in B'nai B'rith's evolution and its role in major world events.

6 June: Shrine Tour. Garry Fabian took members on a very interesting and informative stroll through the Education Centre and the main halls of the Shrine. This coincided with D Day commemorations in the grounds in front of the Shrine.

9 June: Movie Fundraiser - "Mr Blake at Your Service". Thank you to Danielle and her helpers for providing a delicious afternoon tea. A very large group of members then watched a most enjoyable and charming French comedy.

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

Allen Suss (1), Rabbi Steven Link (1), Helen Sher (3), Charles New (3), Alex Starr (5), Bev Sutton (7), Robert Goldsmith (10), Tony Weldon (11), Dr Shimmy Slonim (11), Jack Librach (12), Peter Gaspar (14), Mel Barnett (25), Ben Hirsh (25), Editta Matessi (31), Alan Harvey.

We wish a Refuah Shleima to any of our members who are under the weather.

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**".

Donations to MAD:

Deidre Wainrit as a thank you to Melbourne Lodge for everyone's best wishes following her surgery.
Devorah Zmood in honour of Alan Harvey's 80th birthday.

COURAGE TO CARE UPDATE

National Volunteer Week 20 - 26 May

Courage to Care was proud to be a part of the Bayside Volunteering Expo, which gives residents the chance to see what volunteering opportunities exist and to

interact with Volunteer Managers from these organisations. Our Volunteer Manager, Lisa Lewis and CEO Mike Zervos enjoyed chatting to the many people who came along to the afternoon.

Also, during National Volunteer Week volunteer Chana Shuva received a Glen Eira Council Community Award for 500 hours of volunteering with Courage to Care. Chana was delivering our school program in Traralgon College on the day of the ceremony so we presented Chana with her award at our National Volunteer Week Morning Tea celebration. Congratulations Chana and thank you for the heart and soul and passion you pour into your volunteering at Courage to Care.

Volunteer week culminated in a morning tea. This was a wonderful opportunity for us to give thanks to our volunteers who show up day in and day out to deliver our Upstander educational workshops across Victoria and come into our office to support our staff with a myriad of tasks. It is only through the continued commitment and hard work of our volunteers that we can continue to grow and to create a generation of Upstanders.

Our guest speaker was proud Yamatji-Noongar woman Amanda Maitland-Smith who is volunteering with Courage to Care to help us create a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) formalising our commitment to Reconciliation. Our RAP will reflect the views and values of our organisation.

Amanda was brilliant! Her presentation left a very deep impression on everyone. Thank you also to our friends at B'nai B'rith for hosting the morning.



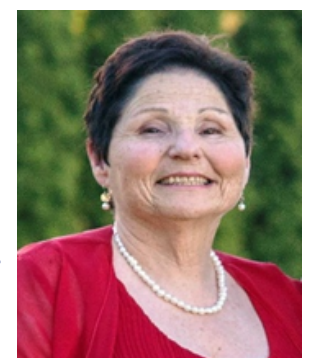
*Chana Shuvaly receiving Glen Eira Community Award for volunteering during National Volunteer Week.
Guest speaker Amanda Maitland-Smith at National Volunteer Week Morning Tea*

King's Birthday Honours

We are delighted that the late Dr. David Zyngier was appointed a member (AM) in the general division of the Order of Australia and Annette Gladwin appointed as a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the King's Birthday Honours. With the sad passing of David late last year, this is wonderful recognition for his significant service to tertiary education, and to the community.



Annette's tireless efforts for the Jewish community over many years was recognised. Annette always looks for opportunities to promote Courage to Care. Annette: "I must commend B'nai B'rith Courage to Care for their remarkable efforts in educating and empowering thousands of students to reject prejudice, bullying, and discrimination. Encouraging "Upstander" behaviour over bystander behaviour is particularly crucial amidst the prevalence of discrimination, prejudice and hate in our times. Courage to Care's motto, emphasizing the power of ordinary people to make a positive difference in the lives of others, rings profoundly true."



JULY 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Jul 2:30pm Fellowship Concert	2 10:00am Armchair Society Series 2	3	4 3:00pm Melbourne Lodge Executive	5	6	7 GRU AGM/Installation 8:00am Ramblers walk 2:30pm Jazz & Klezmer Concert (TBI) 7:00pm GRU Installation
8	9	10 7:30pm ML Regular Meeting 8:00pm Hatikvah Activities Meeting	11	12	13 7:00pm Akiba Midtown to Memphis Show	14 12:30pm Hatikvah Chanukah in July function (From home)
15	16	17 8:00am Ramblers walk 11:00am Akiba visit National Gallery	18 8:00pm Jewish Non-Fiction Book Club	19	20	21 11:00am GRU Coffee & Chat 6:30pm Akiba Installation
22	23 10:00am Armchair Society Series 3	24 7:00pm Hatikvah Executive meeting	25	26	27	28 GRU Bunnings Sausage Sizzle 8:00am Ramblers walk
29	30	31	1 Aug	2	3	4



DON'T MISS OUT!

BROWNYN BISHOP

at

ARMCHAIR SOCIETY

Tuesday 2 July, 10:00am

Bookings essential!

<https://events.humanitix.com/as2>

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.

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.

Official Publication of B'nai B'rith Victoria Inc. 03 9523 0888 admin@bbvic.org.au www.bnaibrith.org.au/victoria

Vol. 72, July 2024. Approved by Australia Post P/P No. 100000993