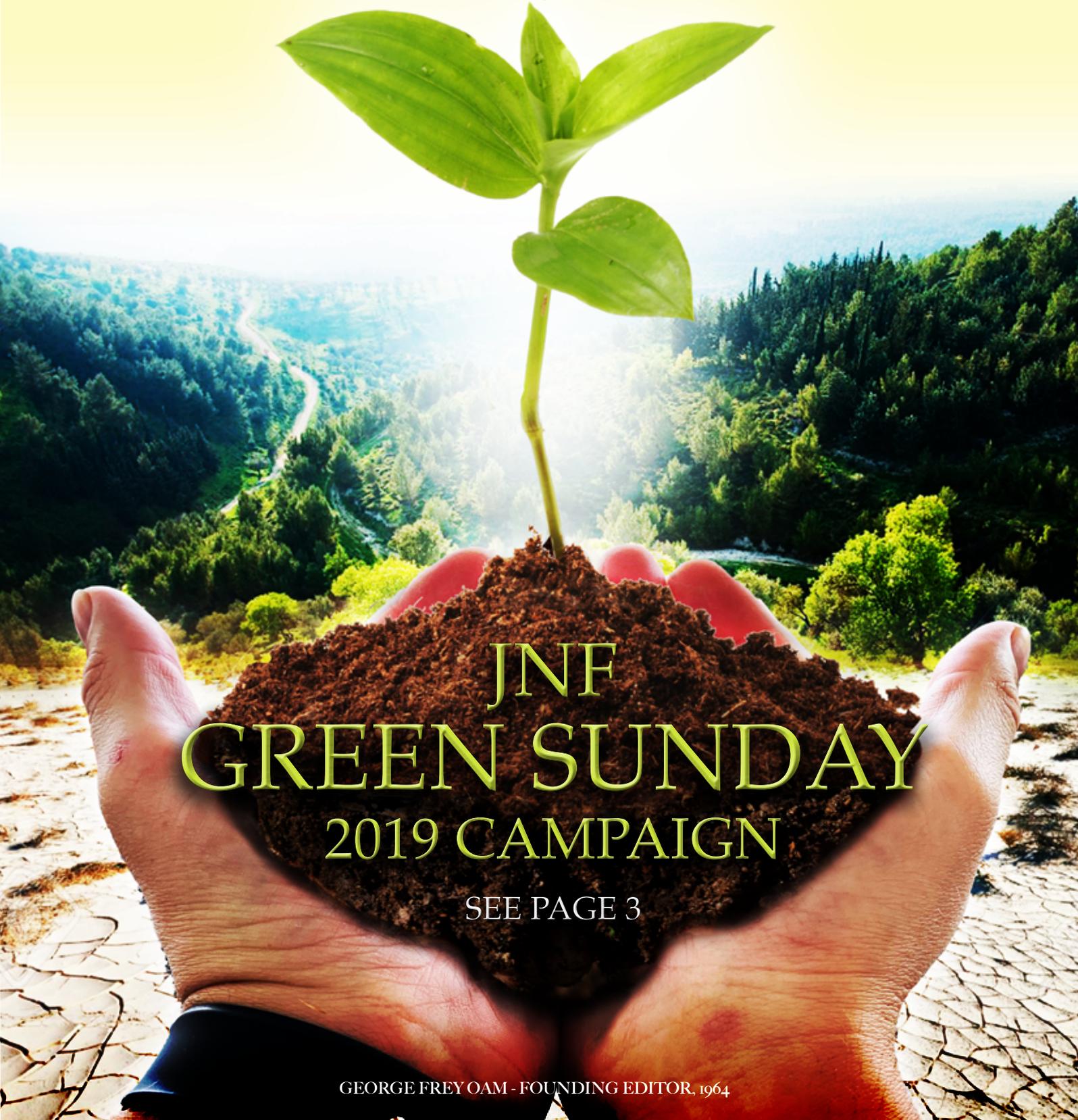




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**FEBRUARY 2019**



**JNF  
GREEN SUNDAY  
2019 CAMPAIGN**

SEE PAGE 3



# OUR WISH FOR ISRAEL THIS GREEN SUNDAY

**This Green Sunday, JNF is supporting children battling life-threatening medical conditions in Israel.**

**Please join us in providing these children with the strength to face the challenges of their illness, build resilience and provide hope for their future - our future.**

**Please answer our calls on Sunday 10th February 2019 or donate now at [www.jnf.org.au](http://www.jnf.org.au)**



[jnf.org.au](http://jnf.org.au)

1300 563 563

# JNF GREEN SUNDAY 2019 CAMPAIGN

SAY YES, HOW I CAN I SUPPORT ISRAEL

SUNDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2019

On Sunday 10th February 2019 JNF dedicated volunteers will be telephoning to invite you to be part of JNF Green Sunday and "plant trees" in Israel as part of the annual JNF GREEN SUNDAY campaign.

## This year JNF is supporting Make-A-Wish Israel

JNF is supporting children battling life-threatening medical conditions in Israel. Funds raised will be dedicated to building a green therapeutic garden and playground at a major hospital as well as granting wishes for critically ill children in the country's South.

Having access to a purpose built, green recreational area will help relieve the stress of hospital visits and provide a wonderful distraction from medical treatment and trauma. It will become a place for children to escape, heal and play.

This initiative is part of JNF's ongoing efforts in support of families in the Negev and Gaza Border communities that protect Israel's southern frontier and ensure its ongoing sustainability.

Please join JNF in providing these children with the strength to face the challenges of their illness build resilience and provide hope for their future - our future.

JNF invites you to be part of this most important project.

Your generosity will help support the children of Israel's south and vastly improve their quality of life

Being part of this special Green Sunday project is a unique and wonderful way of identifying with Israel and its people and this Green Sunday we ask you to solidify your link with the people of Israel and make a vital difference

***The aim in Queensland is to plant 15000 trees (\$15,000) for this therapeutic garden.***

This is your chance to be part of Green Sunday and join all those here in Queensland who have contributed so generously to this traditional campaign over many years -

***WHEN A JNF VOLUNTEER CALLS JUST SAY 'YES, HOW CAN I HELP'***

***REMEMBER THAT THERE IS NO END TO THE GOOD YOU CAN DO THROUGH JNF***

Please call the JNF QLD Office on **07 3807 9212** or **1300 563 563** - to purchase your "trees" - so easy

Remember you can also donate to Green Sunday through the JNF website

A Tax Deductible receipt will immediately be issued to you

All donations to Green Sunday are fully Tax deductible

Go to [www.jnf.org.au](http://www.jnf.org.au) and click on Green Sunday

or use any of the following links

a direct donate page link <https://www.jnf.org.au/gs>

or

<https://www.jnf.org.au/greensunday>





# ON THE FUTURE OF THE HOLOCAUST NOVEL

By Bram Presser | Jewish Book Council

In the not-too-distant future, the Holocaust will have passed from living memory. There will be no survivors left to tell us of the horrors they endured, or the triumph of survival, or even the mundane minutiae that is so rarely acknowledged. What they will have left behind is, of course, extraordinary. In volume. In breadth. In depth. Countless words, many of them assembled into great works of literature, others into more modest efforts, written down so that their families might know.

Thousands upon thousands of hours of audio and video testimony, pictures, diagrams, photos, ephemera of the most varied kinds. Soon, however, it will all begin to gather dust, to fade into history. It will become a setting, a context, just like every other historical catastrophe. If this idea offends you, I'm glad. It offends me too. But only because it is the one horror that I have truly known, that has befallen people I have loved. I cannot separate my own connection, my need to desperately cling to its importance, from the inevitable effect of time. In the not-too-distant future, the Holocaust will have passed from living memory.

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them assembled into great works of literature, others into more modest efforts, written down so that their families might know.

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I often wonder about the shape of Holocaust memory in a post-survivor world. In particular, I question the role of the novelist in keeping memory alive. Fiction has always had its place alongside memoir and nonfiction when it comes to telling stories about the Holocaust. Even in the survivor generation, for every Primo Levi or Viktor Frankl, there was an Aharon Appelfeld or Imre Kertesz.

Later, fiction became a way for the children of survivors to confront the trauma that had





*The Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe  
Wolfgang Staudt from Saarbruecken, Germany*

→ rendered their parents silent. The third generation, with the benefit of time and an enormous ocean of primary sources, could search for essential truths that the historical record alone could not hope to convey. So too, writers with no personal connection at all. But the one thing that anchored all of them—access to firsthand accounts that are not frozen in form or substance—will soon disappear. No longer will writers be able to speak with survivors, ask questions, clarify. This might all seem obvious, but it is also critically important because what is at stake is the future of Holocaust narrative.

Nowhere has this been more apparent than in the recent controversy surrounding *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*, an international bestseller based on “the incredible true story” of Lali Sokolov. Its author, the Australian Heather Morris, has long maintained that the novel is “95% fact,” but it has become increasingly apparent that she took considerable liberties with the story.

Sokolov’s family is said to be dismayed by Morris’s portrayal. But more telling was the response from the Auschwitz Memorial Research Center.

In an unprecedented move, the Center has come out against the book and its distortion of the

realities of the camp. It even went so far as to publish a fact-checking report, which refutes many of Morris’s descriptions and historical observations.

The Center’s press officer ultimately concluded, in an interview with *The Australian*, that *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* is “almost without value as a document.” Another leading Holocaust scholar called it “a sex story of Auschwitz that has very little historical accuracy.”

Of course, this is not the first time that such a fuss has been made about a successful Holocaust novel. Similar accusations were leveled at John Boyne’s *The Boy In The Striped Pajamas*. Like *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*, Boyne’s book—which tells the story of a young Jewish boy who befriends the son of the camp commandant—was accused of minimizing and sanitizing the Holocaust.

Even the U.K.-based *Literary Review*, about as un-Jewish a publication as you could imagine, devoted an entire editorial to its problematic nature. But Boyne had his supporters, too. For the most part they pointed to the book’s allegorical, almost fantastical nature. It was a kid’s book, after all, and its value lay in its message, not its fidelity or otherwise to the historical record.

That has been the line taken by Morris and her publishers: a novel does not claim to stand in place of history. *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* is fiction, and popular fiction at that.

Sounds logical, I guess. But is there not an ethical obligation, no matter how fantastical your story, to get the basic facts right?

Leaving aside Morris’s claim about her book being only 5% removed from truth (despite multiple critical departures from Sokolov’s Shoah Foundation testimony, which it would appear she never watched), the real problem with *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* is not that it gets Lali’s story wrong but that it gets Auschwitz wrong. Very wrong. And given its success, the version of Auschwitz it describes risks becoming dominant in the historical narrative, especially at a time when studies show that general knowledge of the Holocaust is at an all-time low and falling.

So, if distortion is already a growing phenomenon, where does that leave the Holocaust novelist? What happens when there are no survivors left and the Holocaust exists, in the creative sense, as just another historical setting? One thing is for sure. →

→ It will continue to be fertile ground for fiction.

As one English bookseller said to me, “Put in a few Nazis, it’s sure to shift units.” Holocaust narrative will also drift ever further from Jewish “custodianship.” Some detractors of both Morris and Boyne have pointed to their not being Jewish as part of the issue.

They are, in my mind, wrong. While #OwnVoices (a term coined to highlight marginalized characters written by authors who are part of that marginalized group) has rightly sought to rectify the silencing of underrepresented minorities in literature, it does not preclude participation from outside the Jewish writing world. In fact, two of the best Holocaust novels of recent times were written by non-Jews: Daša Drndić’s *Trieste*, and *The Zone of Interest* by Martin Amis. Drndić’s book, in particular, stands out for its meticulous research, intellectual ferocity, and eminent readability.

I asked Drndić some years ago why, though she wasn’t Jewish and was from Croatia, a country with its own, more recent genocidal history, she chose to write about the Holocaust. Her response: the Holocaust is the universal symbol of barbarous inhumanity. Drndić used it as an indictment against our collective failings, to rub our noses in the worst our species has to offer.

I would suggest, as a logical extension, that the Holocaust allows for the deeper exploration of themes because it carries with it a degree of assumed knowledge; you needn’t labor yourself with describing the atrocities. This allows you space that other genocides—those that might require you to write the story of the genocide, as opposed to writing a human story within it—do not.

And those are precisely the kind of stories we, as novelists, seek to tell. Not having to write the Holocaust, not having to document atrocities (itself problematic as many books tip into the realm of atrocity porn), sets us free. We can move away from the victim/hero archetype that has plagued much of Holocaust literature and return agency to those who lived through it. We can tell small stories, stories of relationships. We can confront taboos, crack open the silences. And we can do it without pages of didactic exposition.

Assuming knowledge, however, also carries considerable risk. It can breed complacency in both the reader and the writer. It can entrench errors and mistruths. And so it is incumbent upon

writers to ground themselves in deep knowledge of any aspect of the Holocaust about which they write. Research, cross-check, question. All the more so if, like Morris, you are turning a survivor’s story into a novel that you will be passing off as “95% fact.”

Trauma and time do terrible things to memory. Seeking to corroborate, to correct, is the ultimate act of respect, not some cynical surrender to doubt. Lali Sokolov deserved better than to have his story left open to questioning and criticism. His lapses can easily be accounted for. Morris’s cannot.

That said, I don’t mean to be proscriptive. We need not place limits on the creative endeavor. Indeed, some of my favorite Holocaust novels venture into the surreal, the hilarious, the speculative. Ladislav Fuks’s *Mr. Theodore Mundstock*, a forgotten classic of postwar Czech literature, centers around an old man who decides to prepare himself for the concentration camps by building a replica barracks in his apartment. *Mundstock* is both *Chicken Little* and practical sage, with a touch of *Jakob the Liar*. That he is accompanied throughout by his shadow and an imaginary bird (both fully realized characters), allows the reader considerable insight into a mind torn between despair and unbridled optimism.

Similarly, *The Dance of Genghis Cohn* by Romain Gary hilariously tells of a prankster who, at the moment of his execution, flashes his buttocks at a Nazi firing squad and returns as a ghost to haunt the man who shot him. And then, of course, there is Shalom Auslander’s outrageously funny *Hope: A Tragedy*, in which the protagonist finds himself embroiled in a battle of wits with an elderly Anne Frank who, it so happens, is living in his roof and suffering one heck of a bout of Second Book Syndrome. Novels like these may do all sorts of strange things with the Holocaust narrative as we know it. They self-consciously depart from “the facts.” But they don’t pass off inaccuracies as historical record.

And therein lies the moral. Create, create, create. But do so from a place of knowledge, and always speak the truth.

***Bram Presser’s debut novel, *The Book of Dirt*, won the Christina Stead Prize for Fiction, the UTS Glenda Award for New Writing and the People’s Choice Award at the 2018 NSW Premier’s Literary Awards and the 2018 Voss Literary Prize.*** ✨



## Rona Ramon, Widow of Israel's First Astronaut, Passes Away at Age 54

FROM AISH.COM

Dec 18, 2018 | by Dr. Yvette Alt Miller

**In a life touched by tragedy, Rona Ramon, wife of Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon, was determined to choose life - and to help others cope with grief and sorrow as well. Rona died from pancreatic cancer on December 17, 2018 at the age of 54, but her legacy of hope and resilience endures.**

Born in 1964 in Kiryat Ono, a suburb of Tel Aviv, Rona grew up with a clear sense of her place in the Jewish state. Her parents Gila and Yisrael moved to Israel from Turkey in a youth aliyah, which saw teens and young adults relocate to Israel in the state's early days.

After serving in the Israeli Defense Forces' Paratroopers Brigade, Rona met Ilan Ramon, the son of a Holocaust survivor and a celebrated fighter pilot. He was one of the Israeli pilots who bombed Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor in 1981. Much of the world had condemned Israel for the attack, but Ramon's daring raid prevented Iraq from developing nuclear weapons. He and Rona married in 1986 and had four children.

In addition to being a busy mother, Rona also trained as sports teacher and therapist and ran a therapeutic clinic. She gave that up in 1998 when Ilan was chosen to become Israel's first astronaut, joining the Columbia Space Shuttle crew, and the family moved to Houston.

**As the first Israeli astronaut, Ilan was representing the entire Jewish people.**

As the first Israeli astronaut, Ilan was representing the entire Jewish people. Ilan and Rona made a few key decisions. Although he normally didn't keep kosher or Shabbat, Ilan resolved he would do both when he was in space. He brought kosher meals with him and refrained from doing work from sundown Friday until sundown Saturday. (Since there are no regular daytime hours in space, Ilan consulted with Rabbis about what to do and time timed his Shabbat observance to coincide with his launch location, Cape Canaveral in Florida.)

Ilan also asked one of his university professors, Dr. Joachim Joseph of Tel Aviv University, if he could bring his Torah scroll into space. This Torah scroll had an amazing history. It was unusually small, only few inches high, and was smuggled into the Bergen Belsen

concentration camp during the Holocaust. Defying certain death, Rabbi Dasberg, a Dutch rabbi, gave secret bar mitzvah lessons to a Joachim who was interred there as a child.

Dr. Joseph celebrated his bar mitzvah in 1944 in Bergen Belsen by secretly reading from that Torah. Afterwards Rabbi Dasberg gave him the Torah - on condition that he one day tell the world about it. Dr. Joseph survived the war, moved to Israel, and became a celebrated astrophysicist. Ilan Ramon went to space proudly celebrating his Jewishness and making sure the world knew the story of the amazing Torah he carried.

Ilan Ramon achieved this unprecedented Kiddush Hashem, sanctification of God's Name, before he tragically died on February 1, 2003, when the Columbia Space Shuttle disintegrated as it re-entered Earth's atmosphere. Widowed with four young children, Rona Ilan returned to Israel, and began to use her crushing grief to help others.

Rona studied creative writing and later explained, "It was clear to me that I was going to explore my experiences in an effort to find some kind of an answer....I started collecting testimonies from families who experienced sudden death...Our foundations break apart and the pieces must be gathered, even though the light at the end of the tunnel cannot be seen yet."

**In 2009, Asaf Ramon died in a training exercise.**

When her son Asaf asked to follow in Ilan's footsteps and join the air force too, despite the dangers involved Rona didn't hesitate. "A boy of 18 who has dreamed of flying all his life," she recalled, "I wrote him a letter telling him I give permission to begin his life." Asaf became a fighter pilot. In 2009, tragedy struck his family again when Asaf died in a training exercise after the F-16 fighter jet he was flying crashed.

"The suffering was great, and dealing with it was unbearable," Rona remembered. Yet somehow she vowed to carry on. "I knew I had people to live for, that was clear and convincing. I would keep going for my children, at the most simple and practical level. I would function. If I managed to make lunch for everyone, if I managed to pick everyone up on time from after-school activities and sports fields and not forget anyone - because that, too, has happened - then I was okay."

Asaf was buried near his father in a plot that Rona had purchased for herself. Rona channeled her grief and pain into helping others. She founded the Ramon Foundation which encourages Israeli youth to develop "academic excellence, social leadership and groundbreaking courage". The foundation runs science and educational programs and helps young people realize their academic and social potential. In addition, Rona spoke publicly about her experiences with loss, giving lectures, running workshops and counseling individuals who were also struggling with grief.

On Israel's Independence Day in 2016, Rona Roman lit a torch at the official celebrations on Mount Herzl in Jerusalem. "I light this torch in honor of my loved ones," she declared, "Ilan and Asaf, who were and a candle and a lighthouse to the fulfillment of my vision. In honor of the Air Force pilots throughout the generations who protect us from above; in honor of the astronauts carrying out groundbreaking work for humanity; and in honor of my children and all the wonderful young people who grow up with love for fellow men; and for Israel, and the hope for peace."

Rona leaves behind her children Tal, Yiftah and Noa. She also leaves us with an incredible example of a woman who struggled with tragedy and still found resources deep within her to give and to keep on giving. "It's true that the hand of fate has struck me," Rona once observed, "and how it has struck me. But I have the privilege of choosing how I get up and rise above the great crises that life had in store for me, and I decide which music I choose to hear." 🕯️



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# STATE ZIONIST COUNCIL OF QUEENSLAND

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The State Zionist Council of Queensland (SZCQ) exists to promote Zionism locally and support activities and causes that further the understanding of, and support for, the State of Israel. We are an affiliate of the Zionist Federation of Australia.

SZCQ has its major activities around April to June every year, being the sponsor / organiser of: Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron, Yom HaAtzmaut and Yom Yerushalayim. The SZCQ had another active and, I believe, a successful year in 2018.

Under the SZCQ Constitution, Officers and Members of the Executive are elected for a period of two years. The last elections were held in December 2016. SZCQ have customarily held the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the same day as the AGM for the Queensland Jewish Board of Deputies and Maccabi. Unfortunately this year we were unable to slot in an AGM.

An issue remaining is how should the SZCQ proceed in the coming year or two, with respect to leadership and direction? We are well-served by a number of key people very willing to carry on as organisers of our sponsored activities. I am, however, stepping down as President. I do this primarily because of the pressure of other commitments. I am available to remain with the Executive in 2019 as an affiliated organisation representative, however. It is our plan to conduct an AGM in February 2019, where the Officer positions will be up for election. It is important that incoming officeholders have experience of and commitment to Zionism and the promotion of the State of Israel.

Meantime, preparations for activities in 2019 will continue as normal.

You may have suggestions for the Executive to consider and they would be gratefully received.

It has been a privilege for me to serve the Zionist community since 2010. I have enjoyed much generosity, friendship and support over this time.

Thank you for all that you have done, and for your continuing commitment to supporting Israel.

With kind regards.

**Tony Leverton**  
*Retiring President*  
State Zionist Council of Queensland

**Tel 07 3229 4462**  
**Fax 07 3229 4067**  
**Email** [admin@szcqld.org.au](mailto:admin@szcqld.org.au)  
**Website** [www.szcqld.org.au](http://www.szcqld.org.au)

**PO BOX 12042**  
**George Street**  
**BRISBANE QLD 400**



# Socially Yours

## NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY,

**T**he Jewish National Fund of Queensland wishes to express its sincere condolences on the recent passing of two of our communities most loved members Myrna Freed and Ruth Boock. They were both "Women of Worth" whose contribution to our Community over many years will never be forgotten. We wish the respective families Long Life and may the memory of Myrna and Ruth be a blessing.

**T**he Jewish National Fund of Queensland wishes to express its sincere condolences on the recent passing of the much loved communal member Lionel Boorstein. We wish Lionel's family Long Life and may his memory be a blessing.

**T**he Jewish National Fund of Queensland wishes to express its sincere condolences on the recent passing of the much adored and respected Judith Epstein. We wish Judith's family Long Life and may her memory be a blessing.

**E**x Brisbane now residing in Sydney, Jules Hoffman is now a great grand-father! The proud parents, Andrew and Annette Honigman welcomed Gracie Sara into the world on 27th November whilst Jules and Inge Marcus were cruising overseas. Andrew is the eldest son of Roberta (nee Hoffman) and Dr. Sam Honigman, all of whom reside in Melbourne along with other members of their family. Jules is delighted that his late wife Sarah, who passed away 13 years ago on 19th December 2005 has been remembered in this manner.

## Ask the Rabbi : BEING A MENSCH

### Q. What does "being a Mensch" really mean?

**A** When you learn the halachah, they tell you about the fifth volume of the Shulchan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law).

Joseph Karo wrote four volumes, but there is a further, unwritten book which tells you how to live life as a whole, and it is called, "How to be a Mensch".

A "Mensch" is defined in "The Joys of Yiddish" (p.240), as "an upright, honorable, decent person (with) character, rectitude, dignity, a sense of what is right, responsible, decorous."

Abraham Joshua Heschel explains: Man is made in the image of God. This is not mere theology but a guide for practical living. The most nearly divine thing that exists in the world is a human being. As a Mensch, therefore, I must value myself. I mustn't get too high and mighty and imagine I am God: but neither must I denigrate myself and think I am nothing.

When I appreciate myself and make the most of my potential, then I can learn to love the other person, for they too are made in the image of God. That is what the Torah means in the Golden Rule, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord" (Lev. 19:18).

There are positive ways to love others such as recognising their needs and enhancing their happiness.

There are negative ways too – notably, trying to feel and alleviate their pain and gently protecting them even from themselves.

The sages of Yavneh understood Menschlichkeit when they advised everyone to echo these words: "I am God's creature; my neighbour is also His creature.

My work is in the city; his is in the field. I rise early to do my work; he rises early to do his. As he cannot excel in my work, so I cannot excel

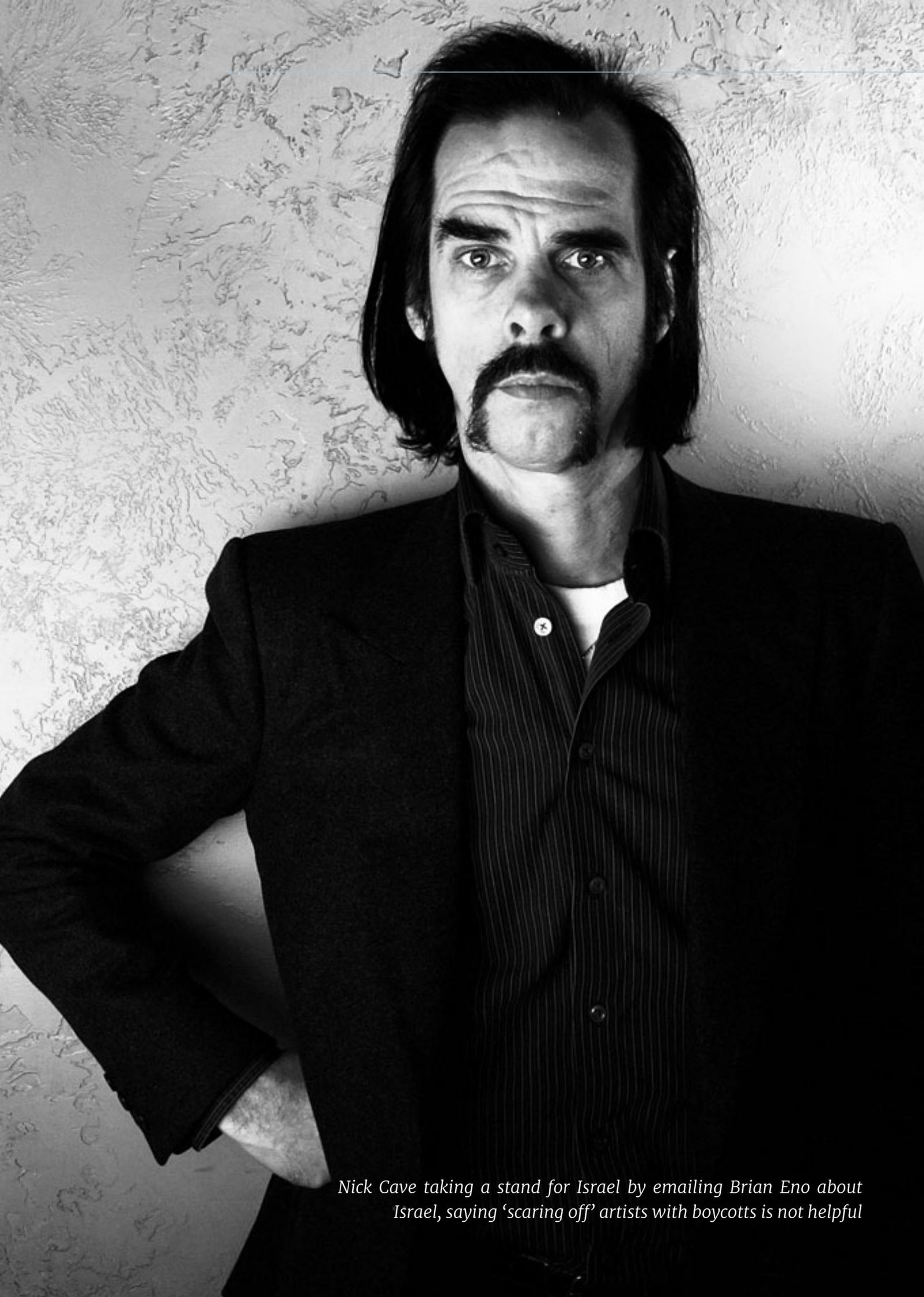
in his work. Perhaps you say: I do great things, and he does small things? It matters not that a man does much or little, if only he directs his heart to Heaven" (Berachot 17a).

In Jewish life we can do with more Menschlichkeit.

Jews of all backgrounds and all points of view are part of the totality of the Jewish people; the Midrash says of the four species of plants taken on Sukkot, that all are held together to denote that all are precious and all have their place in the community.

*Rabbi Apple served for 32 years as the chief minister of the Great Synagogue, Sydney, Australia's oldest and most prestigious congregation. He was Australia's highest profile rabbi and held many public roles. He is now retired and lives in Jerusalem. Rabbi Apple blogs at [www.oztorah.com](http://www.oztorah.com)*





*Nick Cave taking a stand for Israel by emailing Brian Eno about Israel, saying 'scaring off' artists with boycotts is not helpful*



# Nick Cave

## Speaks out

*Nick Cave emails Brian Eno about Israel, saying ‘scaring off’ artists with boycotts is not helpful*

Story by Australian Broadcasting Corporation  
Photo by Getty Images



**NICK CAVE SAYS HE WILL NOT TREAT HIS FANS WITH “CONTEMPT” BY REFUSING TO PLAY ISRAEL, CALLING THE HIGH-PROFILE PUSH**

**FOR ARTISTS TO BOYCOTT THE COUNTRY OVER ITS POLITICS “COWARDLY AND SHAMEFUL”.**

In an email to fellow musician and producer Brian Eno, Cave reaffirmed his stance that he did not support the current Israeli Government, but that he also did not see his performing in the country as “any kind of tacit support for that government’s policies” Eno has been a longtime critic of Israel, labelling the state a “ragingly racist theocracy” in a 2014 letter to fellow musician David Byrne and praising artists who have declined to play there.

“I am aware of the injustices suffered by the Palestinian population, and wish, with all people of good conscience, that their suffering is ended via a comprehensive and just solution, one that involves enormous political will on both sides of the equation,” Cave said in his email, which he published on his Red Hand Files website in response to a question from a fan.

“But I also do not support the Boycott, Divestments and Sanctions movement, as you know.

“I think the cultural boycott of Israel is cowardly and shameful.”

The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement has advocated for a cultural boycott of Israel to pressure its government to end its occupation of the territory Palestinians seek for a state.

“In fact, this is partly the reason I am playing Israel – not as support for any particular

political entity but as a principled stand against those who wish to bully, shame and silence musicians,” Cave said.

Last year, after Cave announced he would perform in Israel as part of the Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds Skeleton Tree world tour, artists including Pink Floyd’s Roger Waters and Sonic Youth’s Thurston Moore signed an open letter urging the Australian to reconsider.

“Don’t go – not while apartheid remains,” they wrote.

“Stand true to your support for those who opposed Israel’s attacks on Gaza. Stand for freedom.”

Cave refused the request, telling local media that he no longer wanted to succumb to “a kind of public humiliation”.

### **This issue has flared up for other artists**

Cave’s message comes a few months after Kiwi singer Lorde was criticised for booking, and then cancelling, a date in Tel Aviv as part of her Melodrama world tour.

“Playing in Tel Aviv will be seen as giving support to the policies of the Israeli Government, even if you make no comment on the political situation,” New Zealand publication The Spinoff wrote in an open letter.

“Such an effect cannot be undone by even the best intention and the best music.”

Days later, a pro-Israel organisation took out a full-page ad in the Washington Post calling the singer-songwriter a “bigot” and accusing New Zealand of “growing prejudice” against the Jewish people.

“While Lorde claims to be concerned with human rights, she hypocritically chose to proceed with her two concerts in Putin’s Russia, despite his support for Assad’s

genocidal regime which has already claimed the lives of over 500,000 innocents,” the ad said.

Elvis Costello and Lauryn Hill have both cancelled concerts in Israel, the latter in 2015 after an online campaign that quoted Killing Me Softly, the song her band The Fugees famously recorded.

### **Cave says his critics are ‘weaponising’ music**

In his email on Wednesday, Cave said a better way to combat the “atrocities” committed by the Israeli Government would be to play in the country and appeal to its media and citizens “on the understanding that the purpose of your music was to speak to the Israeli people’s better angels”.

“Ultimately, whatever the rights and wrongs of official Israeli action in the disputed territories, Israel is a real, vibrant, functioning democracy – yes, with Arab members of parliament – and so engaging with Israelis, who vote, may be more helpful than scaring off artists or shutting down means of engagement.”

In publishing the email to his website, where he has recently written candidly about many topics including the death of his son, the Australian spoke of the difficulty of sparring with an artist as influential as Eno, who is a renowned experimental composer and producer of work by David Bowie and U2.

“The records he made remain some of the most important and essential recordings I have ever heard,” Cave wrote.

“Even so, certain questions need to be asked. How far must we have strayed from the transformative nature of music to feel justified in weaponising music and using it to punish ordinary Israeli citizens for the actions of their government?” ✠

Story originally from the ABC



## NCJWA Brisbane Section

Invite you to join us at our

# PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Saturday 16 February

Starting at 6.15pm

Cost will be \$15 per person

**With starters, mains and dessert provided!**

**We will be going to three different homes...**

**BYO drinks - Whatever you will be drinking.**

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**NUMBERS ARE LIMITED**

**RSVP TO**

**[ncjwbne@gmail.com](mailto:ncjwbne@gmail.com)**

**Details will be provided to attendees only, closer to the date**





# EDUCATORS ON TOUR AMAZED BY JNF AND ISRAEL

FROM J-WIRE, TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2019

*For sixty-six educators from Australia and one lone New Zealander who had recently toured Israel on a ten-day KKL-JNF educational seminar, it had been full of eye-opening encounters.*

**The aim of the seminar was for the educators to absorb the tools and knowledge they acquire in Israel through KKL-JNF-overseas education department led activities and apply them back in their own classrooms and communities.**

A first-time visit for many and a return for some who have been here previously this action-packed tour has been both an educational bonanza and a wonderful exposure to Israel's amazing accomplishments in a variety of fields.

Spanning a wide cross-section of Jewish and non-Jewish schools, teachers from varied backgrounds have traversed Israel from North to South learning about the incredibly varied mosaic that makes up Israeli society. This has included lectures and hands-on experiences at the Technion in Haifa, a visit to a Bedouin high school, workshops related to agriculture and ecological developments and meetings with educators and discussions in areas of mutual concern. In addition, visiting the natural wonders of the Hula Valley, experiencing the mystical delights of Safed and seeing the realities of Jerusalem all contributed to an action-packed and meaningful ten days.

J-Wire's Israel Correspondent, Michael Kuttner, took the opportunity of a brief interlude in Jerusalem to talk with three participants who are representative of the wide range of backgrounds of those taking part in this seminar.

Jeannine Shainfeld, from Sydney who teaches mathematics at Reddam non-denominational school.

Cherel Sartori who teaches science at Mount Scopus College in Melbourne.

Sue Meltzer who is the Principal of New Zealand's only Jewish school in Auckland.

All three were bubbling over with enthusiasm at what they had seen and expressed amazement at what Israel

had achieved in the space of a short span of seventy years. What motivated them to take part in this KKL-JNF sponsored seminar was their desire to learn first hand of the accomplishments Israel had managed to achieve and then to be able to transmit this modern miracle back to their pupils and peers on their return "down under." The innovations they witnessed in a variety of areas relating to special education for children in need and the pace of infrastructure development amazed them.

Seeing first hand how the media presentation of news about Israel back home bore no relationship to actual reality reinforced their desire to spread the truth about Israel back home. When asked how as teachers of science and mathematics they could accomplish this both Jeannine and Cherel came up with simple solutions.

As a science teacher, Cherel, intends to show how Israel's prowess in becoming a leading nation of scientific innovations could be an example for Australia. She admitted that teaching in a world-renowned school such as Mount Scopus where Zionist and Jewish attachment is strong, made her task so much easier.

Jeannine came up with a brilliant answer. She intends to harness Kabbalah and its associated mathematical mysteries to capture the attention of her pupils.

Sue intends to do outreach to colleagues and educators in New Zealand where knowledge of things Jewish is generally rare and media disinformation about Israel is commonplace.

This short exposure to Israel has obviously made a great impact and hopefully should be followed by many more.

As Cherel succinctly summed up at the end of our meeting: "when you see what KKL-JNF is actually creating here you realize that blue boxes and trees are only a part of their activities these days." 

*Pictured: Cherel Sartori, Sue Meltzer and Jeannine Shainfeld*

# JNF YOUNG AT HEART MISSION



**ISRAEL 28 OCT - 6 NOV 2019**



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### Day 1 - Monday 28 October

- Meeting point & welcome in Tel Aviv
- Visit Rosh Zippor bird watching centre
- Enjoy a cruise on the Yarkon
- Tour the old city of Jaffa
- O/N Tel Aviv

### Day 2 - Tuesday 29 October

- Learn about water management at Kfar-Saba biofilter
- Explore Ilanot Forest
- Discover KKL House & Museum
- Walk the new Independence Trail
- Hear the story of the Start Up Nation at the State of Mind Innovation Centre
- Visit Old Tel Aviv & enjoy dinner at the Old Train Station
- O/N Tel Aviv

### Day 3 - Wednesday 30 October 30

- Experience Kibbutz Nahal Oz, a Gaza border community
- See the Western Negev lookout & reservoir
- Follow parts of the ANZAC Trail
- Lunch at Ofakim
- Continue the ANZAC Trail to Golda Park
- O/N South

### Day 4 - Thursday 31 October

- Participate in the commemoration ceremony for the Australian Light Horse Battle of Be'er-Sheva
- Visit the new ANZAC Museum in Be'er-Sheva
- Allenby Park
- Gilat Nursery
- Meet the pioneers of Sheizaf
- Evening event (TBC)
- O/N South

### Day 5 - Friday 1 November

- Meet teachers and students at Lahav Forest Bedouin school
- Atachlit Beta Israel Ethiopian Village
- Drive to Jerusalem via the Judean foothills
- Goldman lookout
- Shabbat Dinner with guest speaker (TBC)
- O/N Jerusalem

### Day 6 - Saturday 2 November

- Walking tour of the Old City (optional)
- Free time
- Dinner at Music Square
- Tower of David Light & Sound Show
- O/N Jerusalem

### Day 7 - Sunday 3 November

- Kotel, Kotel tunnels & lookout
- Yad Vashem & Mt. Herzl
- KKL-JNF Head Office & view the Golden Books
- Machane Yehuda Market tasting tour
- Free evening
- O/N Jerusalem

### Day 8 - Monday 4 November

- Drive north via Beit Shean Archaeology site & Harod stream
- See a model of a Mesopotamian Power Station at Kibbutz Gesher
- Tree Planting
- Visit Jordan River Village, unique retreat for children with serious medical conditions
- O/N North

### Day 9 - Tuesday 5 November

- Ramot Naftali lookout
- Meet soldiers at Malkiya
- HaReut Museum, a "Koach" Fort
- Lunch & wine tasting
- Biriya Forest
- Experience the natural wonders of Hula Valley
- Farwell Dinner at Beit Duvrovin
- O/N North

### Day 10 - Wednesday 6 November

- Special needs Kibbutz Kishorit
- Drive through Misgav
- Lunch & Druze hospitality in Daliat El Carmel
- Mt. Carmel
- Agamon Hefer and Nachal Alexander
- Mission summary in Tel Aviv



# WIZO AVIVA

# AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Sunday 17 February 2019 at 2:30pm**

**1 Sun Place, Chapel Hill**

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**Have your input into what direction you would like to see WIZO Aviva take in 2019.**

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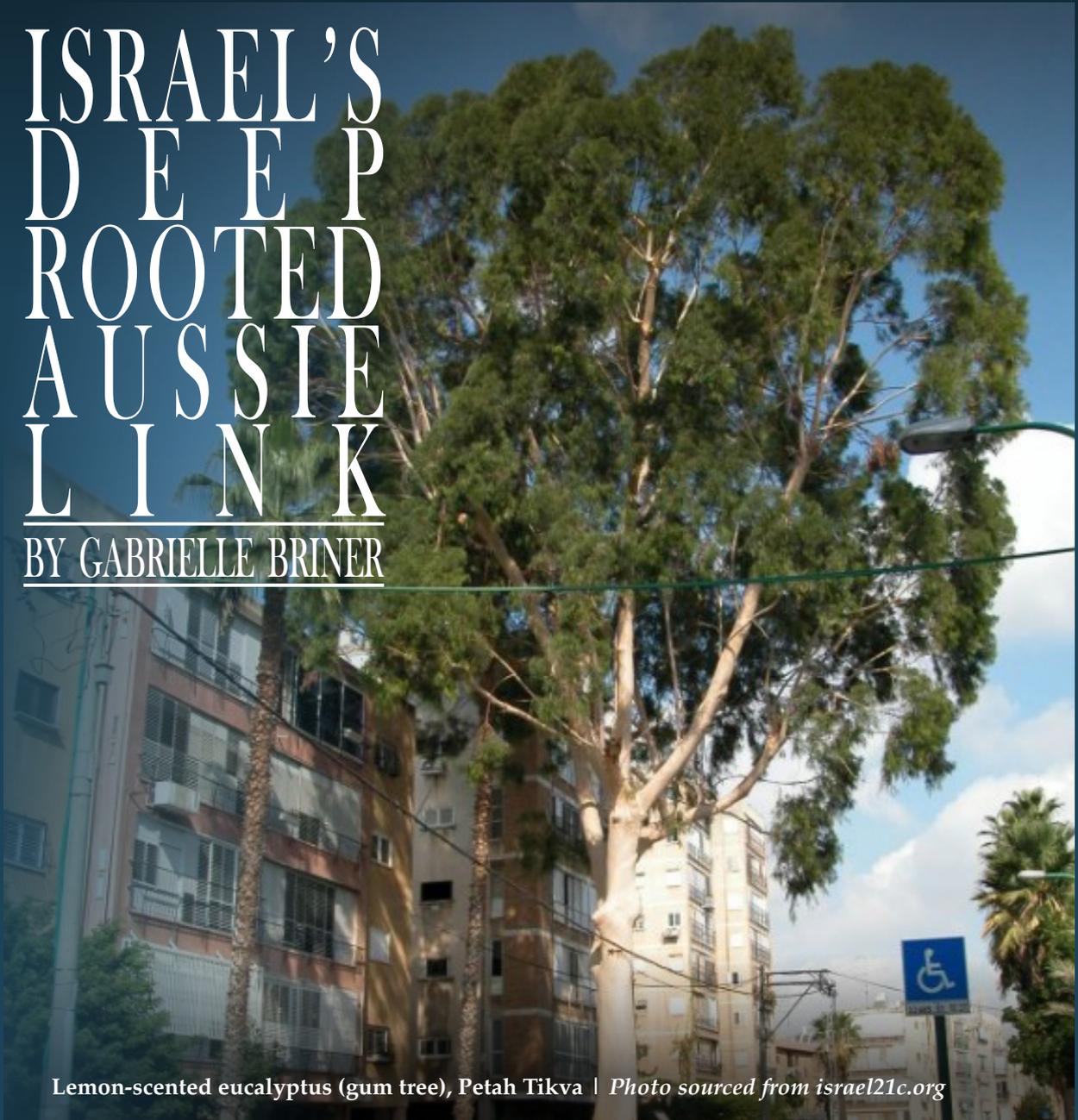
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# ISRAEL'S D E E P R O O T E D A U S S I E L I N K BY GABRIELLE BRINER



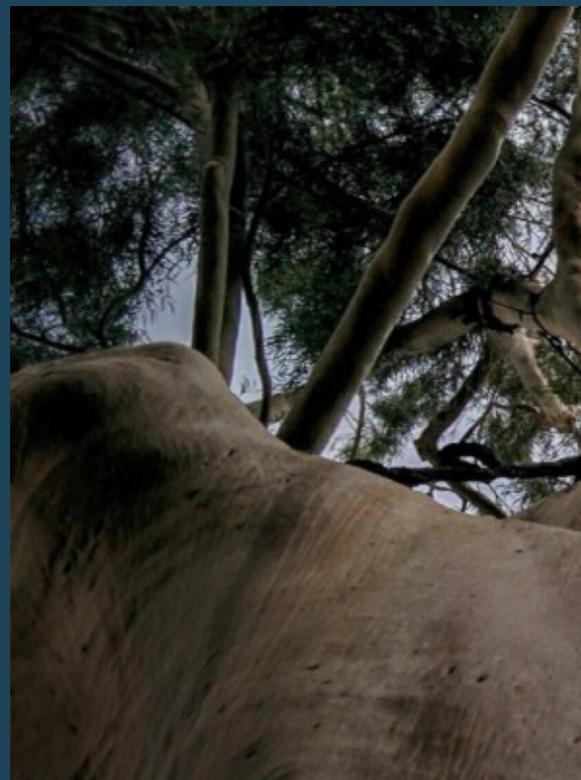
Lemon-scented eucalyptus (gum tree), Petah Tikva | *Photo sourced from israel21c.org*

**T**his week, Israelis are getting their hands dirty by planting trees to celebrate 'Tu-Bishvat' or 'New Year of the Trees'.

On Tu-Bishvat, Israelis reflect on their miraculous agricultural successes since the country's establishment, though many of them don't know the surprising yet undeniable Australian connection to this festival. It was the widespread introduction of the Aussie gum tree that played a crucial role in accelerating Israel's agriculture, infrastructure and defence.

Today, the eucalyptus tree is an integral part of the Israeli landscape. It is Israel's second most-planted tree and in 2012, the eucalyptus was voted the most 'Israeli' tree in a government survey. Over 170 types of eucalyptus trees planted across the country.

The first eucalyptus trees were introduced to Israel in the 19th century as a solution to dry swamps and eliminate the malaria-infested mosquito population, though there are conflicting testimonies regarding the arrival of the seeds.





One of the earliest records from 1860 describes a visit from Joseph Hooker, Deputy Director of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Kew to Israel. He met with the British consul James Finn and his wife, who had a keen interest in agriculture. Hooker wrote to a colleague in Australia, requesting some eucalyptus seeds for Mrs Finn. Mrs Finn wrote back, eagerly reporting that she successfully grew some of the seeds.

In 1874, the German Templars who settled in Tel Aviv wrote about planting eucalyptus trees to soak up the vast wetlands.

The first recorded large-scale planting of eucalyptus took place in the early Jewish settlement of Petah Tikva in the 1880s, where 60,000 seedlings were planted to dry the swamps in the area. Planting spread to other Jewish settlements, including Hadera, Rishon Letzion and Rosh Pina.

Eucalyptus planting was quickly institutionalised, with Carl Netter, the Director of the new Mikve Yisrael Agricultural School in Tel Aviv encouraging its use. A few years later, a dedicated eucalyptus nursery was opened in Kfar Saba in 1906, with the original trees still standing today.

As eucalyptus trees became an essential tool for early settlers to cultivate the harsh land, they also became associated with the pioneering Zionist movement. Eucalyptus trees were praised in Zionist literature and poetry. The Zionist connection to eucalyptus spurred political conflict with local Arabs, who referred to eucalyptus trees as the 'Tree of the Jews.'

In Israel's early years, eucalyptus trees also played a role in the building of the defence establishment. It is said that Ben-Gurion instructed the planting of eucalyptus to conceal movement on Israel's streets from prying enemy forces.

The trees also featured in Israeli espionage. Eli Cohen was one of Israel's best-known spies, famous for his undercover intelligence gathering efforts in Syria in the lead up to the Six Day War. Charming, charismatic and fluent in Arabic, he quickly climbed the ranks of Syrian elite, and became a trusted confidant to the chief advisor of Syria's Defence Minister.

**One of his greatest intelligence feats was convincing authorities to plant eucalyptus trees at Syrian bases located in the Golan Heights to provide shade for soldiers. The trees allowed Israeli intelligence to easily identify Syrian army bases, which allowed for a swift Israeli capture of the Golan Heights after two days of fighting.**

In Israel's early days, early settlers were consumed by solving the problems caused by the problematic landscape. Immense efforts were committed to clearing swamps, growing crops and greenery, all the while conserving water. This fixation led to Israel's agricultural success, including the invention of the drip irrigation, agriculture in the desert and the rise of kibbutzim. Today, Israel is globally renowned for its environmental initiatives, particularly in the fields of food security and renewable energy.

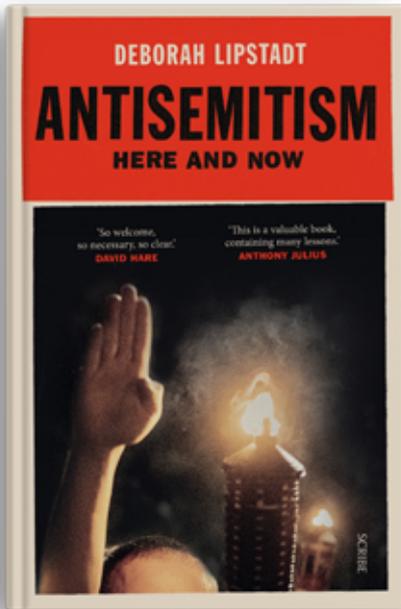
As Israelis mark Tu-Bishvat with plenty of fruit and tree planting, I'll be thinking about the Australian tree that changed the course of Israel's history. 🌳

***An original piece for Shalom, by Gabrielle Briner, Israeli-based journalist and writer, from Brisbane, Qld.***

## IN ISRAEL - EUCALYPTUS TREES BECAME AN ESSENTIAL TOOL



**New Releases from Scribe Publication**



# Antisemitism Here and now

Deborah Lipstadt

**The award-winning author of *The Eichmann Trial* and *Denial* provides a penetrating and provocative analysis of the hate that will not die.**

In the past few years there has been a decided rise in acts and expressions of antisemitism worldwide. No one could have predicted the contemporary situation: a Labour Party in the UK whose leadership has condoned expressions of overt antisemitism and debated whether to condemn Holocaust denial; a white supremacist/nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, with chants of 'Jews will not replace us' and the murder of a counter protestor; the prime minister of Hungary using blatantly antisemitic imagery to win a political campaign; and a former mayor of London and a major UK trade union leader claiming that discussions about antisemitism were nothing more than an attempt by Israel to cover up its wrongdoings.

In *Antisemitism*, Deborah Lipstadt argues that this is a problem that comes from both ends of the political spectrum. She exposes those who use classic antisemitic imagery to attack Israel, and challenges those supporters of Israel who automatically equate criticism with antisemitism.

Antisemitism is based on countless conversations Lipstadt has had over the past few years about definitions of antisemitism, types of antisemites, and the current troubling situation. Written as an exchange of letters with an imagined college student and imagined colleague, both of whom are perplexed by this resurgence, Lipstadt gives us her own superbly reasoned, brilliantly argued, and sure-to-be-controversial responses to these troubling questions.

DEBORAH LIPSTADT is Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish History and Holocaust Studies at Emory University. Her books include *The Eichmann Trial*, *Denial: holocaust history on trial* (a National Jewish Book Award-winner), *Denying the Holocaust: the growing assault on truth and memory*, and *Beyond Belief: the American press and the coming of the Holocaust, 1933-1945*. She lives in Atlanta.



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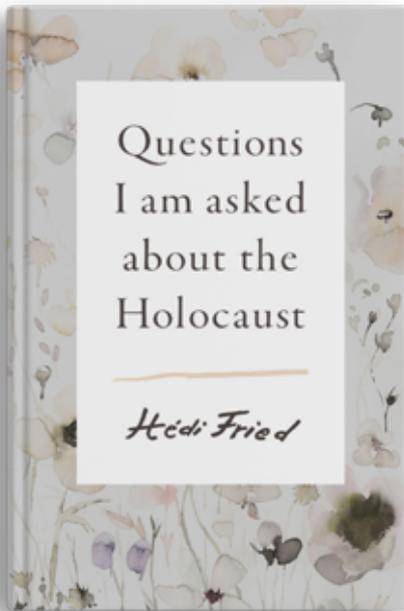
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**New Releases from Scribe Publication**



Translated by  
Alice E. Olsson

# QUESTIONS I AM ASKED ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

Hédi Fried

**There are no stupid questions, nor any forbidden ones, but there are some questions that have no answer.**

Hédi Fried was 19 when the Nazis snatched her family from their home in Eastern Europe and transported them to Auschwitz, where her parents were murdered and she and her sister were forced into hard labour until the end of the war.

Now 94, she has spent her life educating young people about the Holocaust and answering their questions about one of the darkest periods in human history. Questions like, 'How was it to live in the camps?', 'Did you dream at night?', 'Why did Hitler hate the Jews?', and 'Can you forgive?'.

With sensitivity and complete candour, Fried answers these questions and more in this deeply human book that urges us never to forget and never to repeat.

HÉDI FRIED is an author and psychologist. She is deeply committed to working for democratic values and against racism.

She was born in the town of Sighet, in Romania, in 1924, was transported to Auschwitz in 1944, and worked in several labour camps, eventually ending up in Bergen-Belsen.

After liberation, she came to Sweden with her sister, and has lived there ever since. Her bestselling autobiography, *Fragments of a Life: the road to Auschwitz*, was published in English and Swedish in the 1990s.

ALICE E. OLSSON is a literary translator, writer, and editor working across Swedish and English.

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# Ruth Rebecca Boock of blessed memory

9 AUGUST 1932- 26 DECEMBER 2018

**Eulogy for Ruth Rebecca Boock delivered at her funeral on 27th of December 2018 by her children Tracey and Michael.**

Wife, Mum, Mum-in-law, Grand-ma, Great Gran, Sister, Cousin, Aunt, Great Aunt, Niece, Ruthy, Ru, Ruth, friend to all.

One in a Million.....

What a woman! A selfless carer of others, without complaint, or ever speaking ill of anyone at all. She was quiet and reserved and clearly did not take after her mother Elsie, the bossy kind, which a few of us here today have that wonderful quality, but the gentle, kind, caring nature of her father Boris.

Born Ruth Rebecca Boorstein on 9th August, 1932 on Exhibition Wednesday, the second daughter after Esther and the older sister to Lionel by 5 years. Ruth began her life at Kangaroo Point in Castlebar Street. During World War 11, Esther and Ruth were shipped out of Brisbane to Oakey for safety and stayed away returning after some months. Boris was a butcher so they never ran out of food. The house at Kangaroo Point was an open home and saw many families come to the dinner table in these hard times, some of which would be here today. Aunty Becky and Aunty Beatie also lived in the house for many years as well. This was, by the way, a 2 bedroom Queenslander home. They say a house with love has elastic walls.

Ruth went to Kangaroo Point State School, then to Commercial High School where she did quite well, eventually securing a job with the Golden Casket office. In those days, when you got married, you had to leave the work place and be that typical 1950's homemaker, which mum did perfectly. The slippers and food were always ready for Dad when he came home from work.

Ruth and Bert married in August 1955, purchased a house high on the hill at Greenslopes with the best views ever and started their happy 63 years of marriage together. Along came Michael in 1959 and then followed by (me) Tracey 1961.

Mum was a cub mistress at Brisbane South area and known as Akela with her assistant Shirley Bogan. She started the first Judean Cub group, and both Shirley and some of her cubs are here today. Mum was also heavily involved in the Jewish Community and was President of Junior Wizo.

Elsie and Boris had strong family values and with the extended family including the Ross/Briner/Boorstein/Bogan clans, they went on weekly picnics, including an abundance of food, games and fun. This was highlighted in a conversation I had with her in one of the very few times she was in hospital. We were waiting for some results and just chatting about her childhood. She told me how wonderful her life was and the fun she always had going somewhere with all the family and having a blast. This is something that has continued with the current family gatherings and I know we will continue this legacy for many years to come.

In keeping with this, Elsie & Boris, built a 5 bedroom holiday house at Fingal Heads on the now known Million \$ Mile, and we had all the family holidays in this home. Elsie, Boris, Ruth & Bert with Michael & Tracey, Esther & David with Julian, Mark and Nikki, Lionel together with my Great Grandmother Bub and whoever else fitted in at the time, would come for 5 weeks every year. For the 5 grandchildren these are still some of our best memories of growing up, and I'm sure it was for Mum as well. Family was everything and still is.

Mum started a sandwich business with her good friend Sheba and Tracey has fond memories of Dawn, Linda and her helping with this service. Mum told me they never made any money, but they really did have fun.

Mum was the beautiful wife of a very busy husband. Dad was very involved with the Masonic Lodge and she supported him in every aspect, making lifelong friends who are here today. She was also a devoted Mother. Being such a giving person, she would run us everywhere. Cubs, Brownies, Scouts, Guides, Swimming, Soccer, Netball, Sunday School, Betar, Macabbi, parties, social events and anything else we needed at the time. She did this with a smile on her face, never a complaint, a huge testament to the woman she was.

Mum and Dad travelled Australia, went on many cruises and saw many parts of the world with dad visiting many Lodges on the way.

During our High School years, Mum decided to get back into the work force and secured a job with 5 Ways Restaurant in Woolloongabba, where she was the Cold Larder Chef for many many years and fine-tuned her culinary skills which we all benefited from in the years to follow.

Our family started to grow when Tracey married Robert in 1984 and Michael married Christine in 1987. To Ruth's delight, the grandchildren were a plenty. Rebecca, Natalie, Matthew, Declan, Joshua & Samuel. She had such a close bond with each of them and loved attending the wedding of Rebecca to Nathaen. She was an amazing Grandmother and more recently Great Gran to Abby and Will. She also enjoyed seeing Matthew get engaged to Crystal and Declan to Corinne both of whom she had built strong relationships with.

All of the above including Lionel were fortunate enough to have every birthday celebration at her house. As we grew, Dad built extensions to go on the dining table and Mum would sew another longer table cloth so we could all fit comfortably. Getting organised was never a problem. Even as late as 4 months ago she could prepare a 3 course sit down meal for 20 people, all coming out at the same time including everyone's favourite meal, dessert and cake of course. She would not have had it any other way.

Together Mum and Dad started the Eastern Suburbs Probus Club and built that up before moving to Forest Lake. They then started the Forest Lake Probus Club with Mum volunteering in the position of Welfare Officer where she organised well wishes for many of the sick, for birthdays, anniversaries and pretty much any celebration that arose. As is the theme of this Eulogy, many of the members are here today.

Health was a very big part of her life, aside from caring for all of us, she took very good care of herself. She did exercises every day and joined the Heart Foundation Walking Group at Forest Lake shops for the past 8 years, walking 3 times a week. Here she built very strong friendships and once again they are here today.

As mentioned she was born on Exhibition Wednesday and did not miss a year. Everyone was a part of the Exhibition expedition over the year's right up to Rebecca, Nathaen & Abby taking her last year.

Mum cared for her brother Lionel her entire life, more recently talking with him on the TTY service every day sometimes twice a day. Esther was on the phone every other day and the 2 little girls who were only 16 months apart and looked like twins had an amazing bond that lasted a life time.

She was an amazing wife to Dad, she was patient, understanding and was his full carer to the end. She loved him unconditionally and they shared a beautiful life together filled with travel, family, and friends.

There would be no denying that she was - the Best Sister, Best Wife, Best Mum, Best Aunty, Best Grandmother, Best Great Gran, Best Cousin, and Best Friend to all who knew her.

***She will be forever in our hearts.***



# Lionel Boorstein of blessed memory

8 MAY 1938 – 7 JANUARY 2019

**Eulogy for Lionel Boorstein delivered at his funeral on 8th of January 2019 by his nephew Julian.**

Education for Deaf children didn't start until 1620 and was only available to Spanish aristocracy at that time. The earliest schools insisted that deaf children learn to speak and lip-read. Apart from a few exceptions, this method failed to educate the deaf as they were unable to access sufficient language to understand what the teacher was saying. A French priest named Charles Michele de L'Épée understood this and decided that the most effective way to educate Deaf children was in their own sign language. In 1760 he opened the first public school for the Deaf that taught using sign language and by the mid-1800s his method had spread throughout the world, including to Australia, resulting in Deaf people being educated through university level and holding positions of responsibility alongside their hearing peers.

In 1880 a group of speech and lip-reading teachers organised the first International congresses for teachers of the Deaf where they voted to ban sign languages from all Deaf schools worldwide. By the time Lionel started school at the Queensland Blind, Deaf and Dumb Institution in Brisbane, the damage had already been done and only fingerspelling had been reinstated to classrooms.

Lionel John Boorstein was born on 8 May, 1938 on Mother's Day to our grandparents Elsie and Boris Boorstein. Lionel was the youngest of three; with older sisters Esther and our Late Ruth (Boock). Elsie had contracted German measles in her first trimester and Lionel was born a Rubella baby; blind in one eye, a hole in his heart and with profound deafness. At 21 he had an operation on his eye. It was during this operation that a valve defect in his heart was detected that almost proved fatal. As it happens this was a blessing in disguise, as it coincided with the return from the States of a cardiac surgeon with the expertise to repair the defect. So, just after his 21st birthday a new pig-valve was implanted in Lioney's heart. He was the first successful recipient of such a heart-valve in Australia. The valve was expected to last only 15 years however was not replaced until 2010; 49 years later.

Although Lionel learned proficient Auslan (sign language) from the older kids in the playground,

the Rochester method (fingerspelling, speech and lip-reading) was being used in classrooms throughout Australia at that time. As such, our family became quite adept at communicating with Lionel through fingerspelling. Unfortunately, this training method was inefficient and once again deaf kids left school with minimal education and only basic reading and writing skills. Lionel was the product of an ineffective and negligent education system. One can only imagine his potential had he been taught under Eppe's sign language system 100 years earlier.

Many families refused to learn fingerspelling or sign and insisted that their deaf kids only speak and lip-read. Lionel was one of the lucky ones; fingerspelling was used as commonly and effectively as speech in his family home at Kangaroo Point. He was included in most

round-table discussions with Ruth or Esther sitting with him and fingerspelling excerpts of conversations so that Lionel always felt included. As we got older, his nieces and nephews started taking on some of this responsibility.

Lionel had a wonderful childhood surrounded by a family who loved and cared for him. Stories of long rides in the country on Papa's Indian motorcycle, Nanny crammed into the sidecar with Ruth and Lionel, and Esther on the pillion seat hanging on for dear life. Papa would stop at a pub for a cold drink. As Nan and the kids were not allowed in the men's bar, he would sit them outside in the shade and bring out ice cold double sarsaparillas for them all.

His joy as a child was captured by a photographer from "The Truth" on 8th of April, 1951 and sent to us by our cousin Carolyn Goldsmith yesterday. The photo which appeared in the newspaper depicted Lioney along with 3 other young people at an RACQ picnic day at Sandgate, all smiling widely and blowing small silver horns.

As a young child Lionel got into all sorts of mischief. Mum remembers one incident on a very hot day when they all drove down to the Manly swimming pool. While relaxing, it quickly became apparent that no one quite knew where Lionel was. All of a sudden Uncle Mark Isaacs dived into the pool and started swimming frantically. He'd spotted Lionel at the very top of the diving tower (he was 4 at the time). Luckily when he jumped Uncle Mark was there to grab him.

Another memory from around the same period was of Uncle Mark coming to visit at Kangaroo Point in the middle of peak hour traffic. To his surprise & horror he spotted 5 year old Lionel standing in the centre of a busy intersection directing traffic. →



→ Lionel was a member of the Judean Scout movement. His scoutmaster at that time was Bert Boock who, as we now know, was to become his brother-in-law.

Apart from Mum's childhood memories with Lionel, as the family from Melbourne, Mark, Nikki and I remember Lioney predominantly from our 5 week summer holidays at the family home in Fingal; spent with Nanny and Papa, Bub, Auntie Becky, Auntie Ruth, Uncle Bert, our favourite cousins Michael and Tracey along with a menagerie of extended family, friends and other visitors. Lionel nearly always had his very good friend Barry with him, who also passed some years ago.

We spent the days swimming, fishing and playing for hours on end. Lionel was always there ready and willing to play board games with us. We loved his gorgeous belly-laugh and the way he would count from one to twelve depending on the landing of the dice. As ignorant children, his unique pronunciation of 5, 7, 9 and 11 would often have us in stitches. Fortunately Lionel interpreted this as the joy that his nieces and nephews had playing the game ... and his interpretation was not far from the truth. There was no malice in our laughter; his unique speech was an endearing quality that we all loved.

Lioney had in fact, created his own names for each of us. Having never heard our names spoken, Lioney put the letters together the best he could with the limited speech that he had. To the untrained ear, our names would have been unintelligible, but to the family they were unmistakably clear. We had Ucha (Esther), Rood'r (Ruth), Jurka (Tracey), Judda (Julian), Bakka (Mark), N'ukka (Nikki) and B'jaida (Michael).

Lionel was our constant protector. Regardless of where we were playing, Lionel was often found running after one of the little ones, preventing us from whatever mischief might have hurt us.

As a young man, Lionel was apprenticed under our grandfather Boris, and learned his trade as a butcher. He worked in the family shop until it closed and he then moved to the meat works at Dinmore as a slicer. Closer to retirement, he worked as a chicken boner.

In his 20's he set off alone to America where he visited family as well as several major tourist attractions such as Disneyland. He travelled to Texas & visited ranches where he embraced one of his favourite hobbies, horse-riding, decked out in full western gear including his signature cowboy boots. Lioney loved pretty much anything to do with horses & we were all recipients of his famous hand-tooled leather belts with big western buckles to boot. When we think of Lionel, we will always remember him as a Cowboy. While in America he also made contact with the Deaf community and created a number of lifelong friendships. One such friend was

Henry from Hawaii, who we got to know well when he travelled to Australia.

Outside of the family, Lioney was involved with the Brisbane Deaf community, most of who were his classmates at school. In his younger years, Lionel was a champion ten-pin bowler and played on the QLD Deaf ten-pin bowling team winning a number of awards, medals and at least one big trophy that I remember seeing as a child.

Throughout his life, Lionel maintained many of these friendships and up to only a few years ago, met weekly at Browns Plains Shopping centre for coffee with a Deaf group, many of whom he considered his closest friends.

After the passing of his parents, Elsie and Boris, he and Auntie Becky moved into a house together in Hillcrest, where they lived for many years. After Becky's passing he later moved into his present home at Mortimer Gardens where he was a valued member of their small community and where he received the friendship & support of a very caring group of staff.

During these final years of his life, Lionel had the unconditional support of his Brisbane family. While his sister Ruth was the most important person in his life, she was lovingly supported by Tracey, Robert, Michael & Christine who always ensured his needs were met & along with his great & great-great nieces & nephews, visited often.

His ever devoted sister Ruth was his rock, his closest companion and the one he turned to for support & connection. Her morning routine consisted of a TTY phone call to Lioney just to touch base and was often followed up with a visit later in the day. It almost seems poetic that Lioney should follow so closely after, the person he cared for most in the world.

He has always been surrounded by a loving family. Our extended family, who have always been so supportive of Lioney, enjoyed many family picnics with us over past years. He loved his beautiful G-d daughter Kerrie who is with us today. Lionel was very close to her mum Rae, his first cousin. They were the same age so grew up together. As such he became a big part of Kerrie's life growing up.

We know that Lionel would have been very proud to have seen so many valued friends and family attend this service. As his immediate family, we thank you each of you, sincerely, for attending today.

Lionel will always be in our hearts and forever missed.

**Note: It is believed that the above eulogy presented at Lionel's funeral was the first to be simultaneously interpreted and delivered in sign language at Mt Gravatt Jewish Cemetery**



IN MEMORY

# Judith Deborah Epstein of blessed memory

29 JANUARY 1931- 10 JANUARY 2019

**Eulogy for Judith Epstein delivered at her funeral on 14 January 2019 by her son Ramon Epstein.**

Judith Deborah Levey was born on 29 January 1931 in Subiaco, Perth - the youngest child of Esther and Isaac (known as Joe), and sister to Victor and Ruth.

Judy attended school in Claremont in Perth. In 1938 when she was seven, her parents made the decision to move to Queensland - a place Judy struggled to even imagine until her school teacher pulled down the rollup map of Australia on the blackboard and showed her and her classmates where Queensland was.

Judy recalls the family drove to Kalgoorlie where they stayed for a few weeks with our grandmother's sister Sadie and her husband, after which the car went on the train to cross the Nullabor Plain and then the family travelled on to Brisbane.

They first lived in Hendra, then moved to Constance Street, Fortitude Valley, then on to Windsor, then to Indooroopilly, then West End before finally settling in Allen Street, Hamilton - a home that holds fond memories of love and family get-togethers.

Mum first attended the Valley State School and then during the war, had to move schools as the family then were living in West End, and it was forbidden for children to cross through the city for fear of attack by the Japanese. She attended the West End School during the war and then did her high school years at Commercial in George Street after the war ended. Mum was very bright and did so well at school she was able to skip a couple of years.

Growing up in Brisbane as a young girl during the war years had a profound effect on Mum, and she recounted many memories of wartime restrictions, resilience and 'making do'.

Mum recalled that during the war, the American soldiers in Brisbane were racially segregated - the 'white' soldiers were based at Doomben and Eagle Farm racecourses whilst the African-American servicemen were based at West End and were not allowed to cross the Brisbane River to the northside unless on official army business. Mum was horrified at this segregation.

After the war, our grandfather left the army and ran a number of businesses and Mum left school early to help Grandpa in his businesses.

Her training made her a valuable asset in Grandpa's army surplus business office in the Colonial Mutual Building in George Street, where she did the books and administrative work.

Grandpa then purchased a joinery business which employed around 37 staff, in partnership with Theo Cominos. Mum helped

her father in the business, where her job included listening to the radio and ringing through the Test cricket score updates to the factory foreman because the workers couldn't hear the radio over the noise of the machinery.

In 1949, after some matchmaking efforts through the Young Mens Hebrew Association, mum met Ralph. Photos of their early dates at the Cloudland dances show a beautiful, composed young woman with white lace gloves and a corsage pinned to the shoulder of her gown. Mum and Dad married in 1953, and their wedding present from the joinery workmen was a nest of tables which are still to this day sitting in the family lounge room at Wavell Heights.

After Mum and Dad married, they lived with our grandparents at Allen Street, and Gerald was born in 1956.

They then bought a block of land in Wilgarning Street, Stafford and had a basic shell of a house built as they didn't have much money in those days. Dad "finished off" a lot of the work himself. They made do with borrowed furniture and butter boxes for shelving.

I was born in 1959 and came home to Wilgarning Street. Ruth and Morrie and cousins David, John and Rob lived "over the hill" within walking distance from us and Vic, Phyllis and cousins Jacqui, Geoff and Viv lived not far away. There was a strong and lasting family bond of shared holidays and special occasions with our close-knit family.

Family gatherings were boisterous with 'robust discussions' encouraged and enjoyed. Some of the most robust discussions were between Mum and Dad themselves, with each claiming their version of events was correct!

Mum put much of her life on hold for a number of years to support me after my spinal injury at the age of 12. This was a life changer for me and all our family and I would not have been able to achieve what I have without that love and support through those difficult times.

Judy took enormous pride in her sons' achievements - our academic pathways, Gerald's successful law practice on the Gold Coast and my professional career and involvement in Paralympic sport. The arrival of her three grandchildren Gabrielle, Madeleine and Isabella gave her a whole new generation of children to love and share her memories with.

If there was one thing that Mum would be remembered for it was her loyalty and devotion to her friends and family. I don't think that too many people could lay claim to still being in daily contact with their siblings and regular contact with friends from before their marriage for more than 60 years. Mum also maintained close ties with her many cousins in the UK through letters and phone calls. She was always a great source of information on family history and connections.

Judy bore the loss of her beloved brother Vic and sister Ruth, many other family members and friends, and her memories of good times past helped her deal with those losses over the years, including her bridesmaid Ruth Boock and Ruth's brother Lionel who both passed away in recent weeks.

Mum led a long and full life and was able to retain her independence until a few years ago when her health began to deteriorate significantly. We were blessed to have her in our lives for as long as we did.

Thank you for coming today to support our family and to honour Judy as a wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister and loyal friend. Special thanks to all our cousins from interstate and long-time family friends Inge & Jules from Sydney.

**Mum will be sadly missed and will remain forever in our hearts.**



# IN MEMORY OF LORRAINE REVELMAN

By Kay York

This article celebrates the life of the late Lorraine Revelman (Rosenblum).

About 25 years ago, I contacted Lorraine with the view of having a "Brisbane Reunion".

There were and still are many of us Brisbanites who became "Mexicans" and went south of the border in the pursuit of many things, but namely a larger Jewish community.

Of course we had not lost touch with each other, and so the task of collecting all and sundry to attend this shindig would not be that hard.

And so Lorraine and I agreed to meet for lunch to discuss plans and she brought in a few of our Brisbane compatriots for good measure.

The "Brisbane Lunch" was born and we have been meeting monthly ever since.

Needless to say our function did come off very successfully, with about 80 attendees.

**So let's name the team of the ladies that lunch. Judy Hall (Buyers), Judi Cohen (Moss), Agi Hymers (Fischer), Sylvia Kohn (Sekel), Anne Bennett (Lipski), Ramone Philips (Unger), Carmel Sharp (Fabian), our dear late Lorraine and myself, Kay York (Bogan).**

On occasion we have blow-ins from Brisbane to make a guest appearance, the most recent of whom was Andrea Schoenheimer.

We would like to remember our fellow luncher and dear friend Lorraine, who passed away very suddenly at the age of just 69 a few months ago. We just met yesterday for our final lunch for 2018 and toasted Lorraine. It still seems that she will walk in at any moment.

*To Lorraine.....* ✨





## H.E. MARK SOFER

AMBASSADOR OF ISRAEL TO AUSTRALIA

Mark Sofer's distinguished career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has seen him being posted to Peru, Norway and New York, before being appointed as Ambassador to Ireland, and later as Ambassador to the Republic of India as well as Non-Resident Ambassador to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

His career also includes acting as a Policy Advisor to the then-Foreign Minister of Israel Shimon Peres, and heading a prestigious non-profit foundation - The Jerusalem Foundation. Before his posting to Australia, Sofer served as Deputy Director General of the Foreign Ministry and Head of Asia and Pacific Division.



invites

# GENERAL DIVISION

# UIA

2019 CAMPAIGN  
GALA EVENT

DATE

Sunday 3 March 2019

TIME

6:00pm

COVER CHARGE

\$60 Including Kosher dinner

RSVP

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Tuesday 26 February 2019

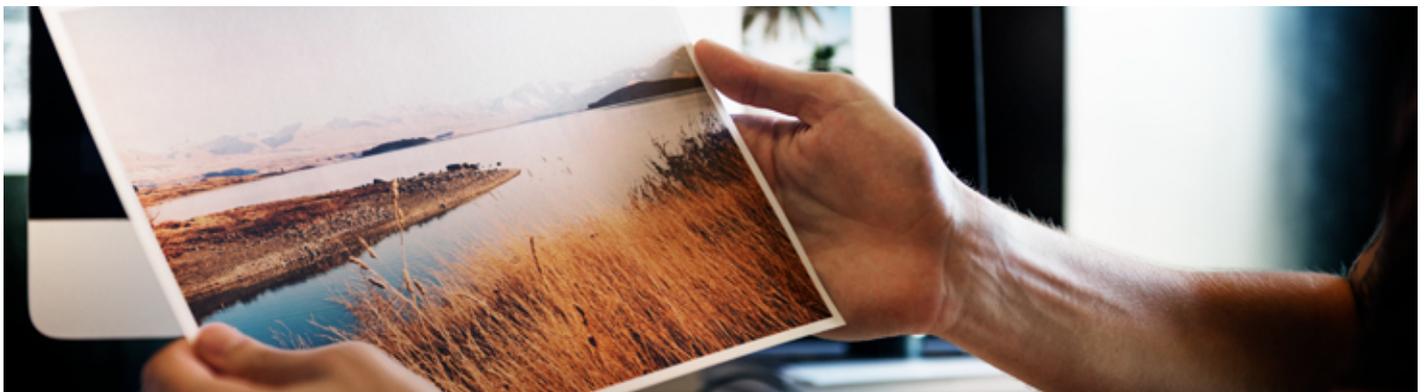
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**WHERE? TBA UPON RSVP TO SUSAN SEGAL 0421 018 209**

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**Managing Editor**

David Jacobs

**Graphics and Digital Development Editor**

Kel Bogan

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To Contact Us

**Email**

[admin@shalommagazine.com.au](mailto:admin@shalommagazine.com.au)

**Mobile**

0412 578 368

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# BRISBANE HEBREW CONGREGATION

THE BRISBANE SYNAGOGUE  
98 MARGARET STREET, BRISBANE

Regular Services

**Shabbas, Friday evening:** Ma'ariv 6.00pm.

**Shabbat Morning:** 9:00am.

**Shabbas Discussions:** Shiurim (Study Group) conducted by Rabbi Levi Jaffe 8.30am to 9.00am each Shabbas prior to Service.

Kiddush is held after Shabbat morning service.

**Weekday Services:** Mon and Thurs at 6.00am.

**Synagogue Office:** Telephone 3229 3412

**Membership:** Email Alan Rose at [membership@brishc.com](mailto:membership@brishc.com)

**Sick Visitations:** Phone Rabbi Levi Jaffe on 0419 136 451

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Should the need arise please call our 24/7

**EMERGENCY NUMBER**

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for the person on call to assist you.

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Phone (M) 0433 414 762

**Paul Gould** - Vice President  
Phone (M) 0422 638 663

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## MISHKAN ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

2 Moxon Road Burbank, QLD 4156

### Regular Services

#### Friday Evening:

(Summer time)

#### Saturday Morning:

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#### Saturday evening:

#### Sunday Morning:

#### Monday evening:

#### Kabalat Shabbat 6:30pm

Maariv 7:00pm

Shacharit 8:00am

Mincha 17:30 followed by Shiur until Maariv

Maariv 7:00pm

Shacharit 7:30am

Monday Evening: Shiur 6:30pm, covering the weekly Torah portion, the festivals and our sages

Eli Saranga

**Chairman**

Email: [sarangaeli@gmail.com](mailto:sarangaeli@gmail.com)

Mobile: 0434 724 052

Shlomo Cohen

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Email: [Shlomocohen357@hotmail.com](mailto:Shlomocohen357@hotmail.com)

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Email: [tzurishaddai.yy@demartini-scacheri.com](mailto:tzurishaddai.yy@demartini-scacheri.com)

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## ORGANISATIONS

### QUEENSLAND

<b>Jewish National Fund Qld</b>	07 3807 9212
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<b>Jewish Help in Need Society of Qld</b>	
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### GOLD COAST

<b>Gold Coast Hebrew Congregation</b>	07 5570 1851
www.goldcoasthc.org.au	
<b>Gold Coast Jewish Community Council</b>	0432 893 862
<b>Friends of Hebrew University</b>	07 5539 0632
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<b>Sar - El David Samson</b>	0429 236 160
<b>Gold Coast Chevra Kadisha</b>	
Robbie Ventura	07 5596 6919

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### BRISBANE - REGULAR EVENTS

<b>Community Diary Bookings</b>	<b>Kathy Gould</b> 07 3411 3664 0402 497 413 kathygould45@msn.com
<b>WIZO Aviva</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each Month (n) 07 3715 6562 wizoqld@gmail.com
<b>NCJWA Meeting</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday 7:30pm

### GOLD COAST - REGULAR EVENTS

<b>NCJWA Gold Coast</b>	Monthly Meetings 7:30pm - 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of each month 0412 377 488 goldcoast@ncjwa.org.au
<b>Temple Shalom Services</b>	<b>Office 07 5570 1716</b> Erev Shabbat 6:30pm Shabbat Morning 10am <b>Oneg Shabbat</b> 2nd Friday each month following services <b>Seiudat Shabbat</b> Last Shabbat each month following Torah Service <b>Groovy Movers Exercise</b> Mon & Wed 10am-12 Noon Friday 8-10 am
<b>Gold Coast Hebrew Congregation Services</b>	<b>All enquiries call 07 5570 1851</b> <b>Friday Night Live</b> Uplifting Service every Friday Night starting 5:30pm <b>Shabbat Kiddish</b> Following the service every Shabbat at 9am <b>Kabbala and Jewish Mysticism</b> Journey of the Soul, Monday evening at 7:30pm <b>Talmud Classes</b> Thursday evening at 7:30pm <b>Talmud Torah Chader</b> Sunday 9:30 - 11:30am

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## MARCH DEADLINE

Monday 18th February 2019

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