

CELEBRATING 54 YEARS

OF PUBLISHING 1964 - 2018



KEREN  
KAYEMETH  
LEISRAEL

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



**JNF** GROWING  
OUR FUTURE

ADAR - NISSAN 5778

MARCH 2018

## SAVE THE DATE

### Yom Ha Shoah

Sunday 15 April 2018  
Mt Gravatt Cemetery

### Yom HaZikaron

Tuesday 17 April

### Yom Ha Atzmaut

Sunday 22 April 2018  
Communal Centre Burbank

### Yom Yerushalayim

Sunday 13 May 2018

# KKL – JNF in the 21st Century: The Green Century

KKL-JNF



Zippori Forest. Photographer: Michael Huri, KKL Photos Archive.

By the start of the 21st century, KKL-JNF had become Israel's top green organisation, as a result of its changing priorities in line with society's environmental needs. The policy of [sustainable development](#) merges well with growing environmental trends.

For the first time, KKL-JNF's friends worldwide have mobilised to help people with special needs, by developing accessibility at KKL-JNF recreation sites for the physically disabled, and facilities to assist the hearing and vision-impaired. KKL-JNF aims to make all its sites available for everyone to enjoy.

At the same time, enormous efforts and resources were devoted to the top-speed laying of infrastructure for temporary communities and farms for the evacuees of Gush Katif, when they were relocated from their communities as part of the unilateral withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005. Efforts unprecedented in scope and generously assisted by friends of KKL-JNF worldwide, were devoted to reducing the evacuees' distress as much as possible.

After the first wave of work was completed, the second wave prepared ground for permanent communities and for agricultural infrastructure. Several resulting new farms are flourishing in the desert of the western Negev.

Although KKL-JNF has been involved in settling and developing the Negev for decades, Friends of KKL-JNF worldwide have joined forces to offer residents of the Western Negev every kind of possible help when they are subject to rocket attacks from the Gaza strip. The support includes every kind of help possible, from providing the embattled population with respite activities at KKL-JNF sites to the construction of new communities, agricultural farms and safer ring roads.

Playground at the new Halutzit community. KKL-JNF Photo Archive

International recognition of KKL-JNF's unique research that started over a decade earlier has grown to previously unknown levels as research partnerships were developed on water and forestry issues. Today, there is cooperation with the American and Australian forestry administrations, regional governments of the states of Alberta and Manitoba in Canada, and with the forestry organizations in Spain, Italy, Greece and other Mediterranean countries.

Researches carried out by KKL-JNF staff, in cooperation with leading academic institutions in Israel, have already benefited other countries, especially in eradicating the gall wasp (*ophelimus maskelli*) which causes tremendous damage to eucalyptus trees, an important resource

in the Far East and Australia. KKL-JNF's participation in the international "Clean Up the World" campaign, originating in Australia, is a further expression KKL-JNF's dedication to greening the country and promoting community projects in the 21st century.

KKL-JNF's 110 years of glorious achievement would not have been possible without the support of its friends worldwide, both before and after the founding of the state. Residents of Israel and visitors to the country experience a country that is more blooming and prosperous than ever before.

Thanks to KKL-JNF's work, the scars inflicted on forests by harsh climate, fires and war are slowly healing. For instance, the Galilee forests damaged by rocket attacks during the 2006 Second Lebanon War have been rejuvenated by the planting of hundreds of thousands of new saplings that either germinated naturally or were planted by loving hands. KKL-JNF is at the forefront of efforts to renew the Carmel forests damaged by the wildfires of December 2010. Under KKL-JNF's love and care, the blackened forests have become covered with green.

Purified sewage water from the Dan Region irrigates most of the orchards in Israel that have relocated together with the recycled water to the new green areas of the northern Negev.

Forests are now alive with cyclists who have discovered nature through the bicycle paths that KKL-JNF has



Playground at the new Halutzit community. KKL-JNF Photo Archive

created. The wild flowers in and around KKL-JNF's forests bloom in the winter and spring months more than ever before, thanks to the organization's correct maintenance of the picnic spots and their surroundings, and to the increased awareness of nature and the environment that KKL-JNF has instilled in the public.

In cooperation with the local authorities, KKL-JNF is in the process of planting seven million trees – one for each citizen. These projects express, among other things, the contribution made by KKL-JNF to the worldwide struggle against climate change.

Together with friends worldwide, KKL-JNF hopes to continue its multi-hued activities on behalf of the people and the land in the forthcoming decades.

## MAKE YOUR SIMCHA EVEN MORE SPECIAL BY SHARING IT WITH A COMMUNITY IN ISRAEL

**Turn your special occasion into a celebration that has a real impact by giving your friends and family the opportunity to make a donation in lieu of gifts.**

**You can choose one of many vital JNF projects in Israel's most deserving communities including children's education, scientific research and water management.**

**It's so simple...**

- Log on to [www.jnf.org.au/mysimchaproject](http://www.jnf.org.au/mysimchaproject) or download the JNF App
- Register your event details and choose a project that is most special to you
- We will then send you a link to your customised donation page and your names will be inscribed in the Golden Books in Jerusalem\*

**For more information or to discuss how your simcha can help to change lives in Israel please contact the JNF office on 1300 563 563.**



\*Minimum total donations of \$500



# Can the world agree upon a 'common memory' of the Holocaust?

MONA SUE WEISSMARK - CHICAGO TRIBUNE - 14 FEBRUARY 2018

My mother and father were survivors of Auschwitz, Dachau and Buchenwald.

All that remained of our family tree were a few yellowed photographs tucked away in a drawer.

I can't pinpoint exactly when I first learned that, aside from my parents, every close family member was murdered by the Nazis.

No one ever sat me down and told me such things had happened.

I was aware we had no living relatives. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins — these were abstract concepts. Indeed, I remember I would try to figure out, for example, what a cousin was by doing some hypothetical problem-solving. "So if my mother's brother was alive and he had a child, that child would be my first cousin." It took mental work, and I was never confident I got the answer right.

And I was aware of the blue tattooed numbers on my parents' arms. My mother's concentration camp number was 47021 and my father's number was 184879. But I didn't know why or how those numbers got tattooed on their arms.

I would learn about the past haphazardly, flummoxed by each new discovery.

When I heard stories of the Holocaust, I tried to imagine the horrors that contained my mother's and father's history.

"Mommy, why did the Nazis murder your parents and little brother?" I asked when I was about 8 or 9. "Did they do something bad?" I asked.

"No. The Germans and the Poles hated the Jews," my mother said, as quickly and causally as if she were commenting on a new movie.

I raised my eyebrows and waited for her to elaborate.

My mother continued, matter of factly, "The Germans had to be taught to hate the Jews, but the Poles inherited their hatred for Jews from their mothers' milk. Anti-Semitism was suckled with their mother's milk."

Her declarations should not have surprised me, I suppose, since she spoke truthfully about her experiences in the Warsaw ghetto and in the concentration camp.

I was always mesmerized by my mother's assessment of her experiences in the concentration camp. It sounded like an analysis of a book, yet it was also a truthful,

thoughtful reflection of the way, as a young woman, she had seen things then.

Toward the end of my mother's life, she worried that when she and other Holocaust survivor witnesses died the world would forget the Holocaust. Or worse, that the world would minimize their sufferings or morally equate their sufferings with what some Polish and other citizens endured during World War II.

My mother's worrying didn't convince me. It didn't seem warranted. So I asked her once to explain it more fully.

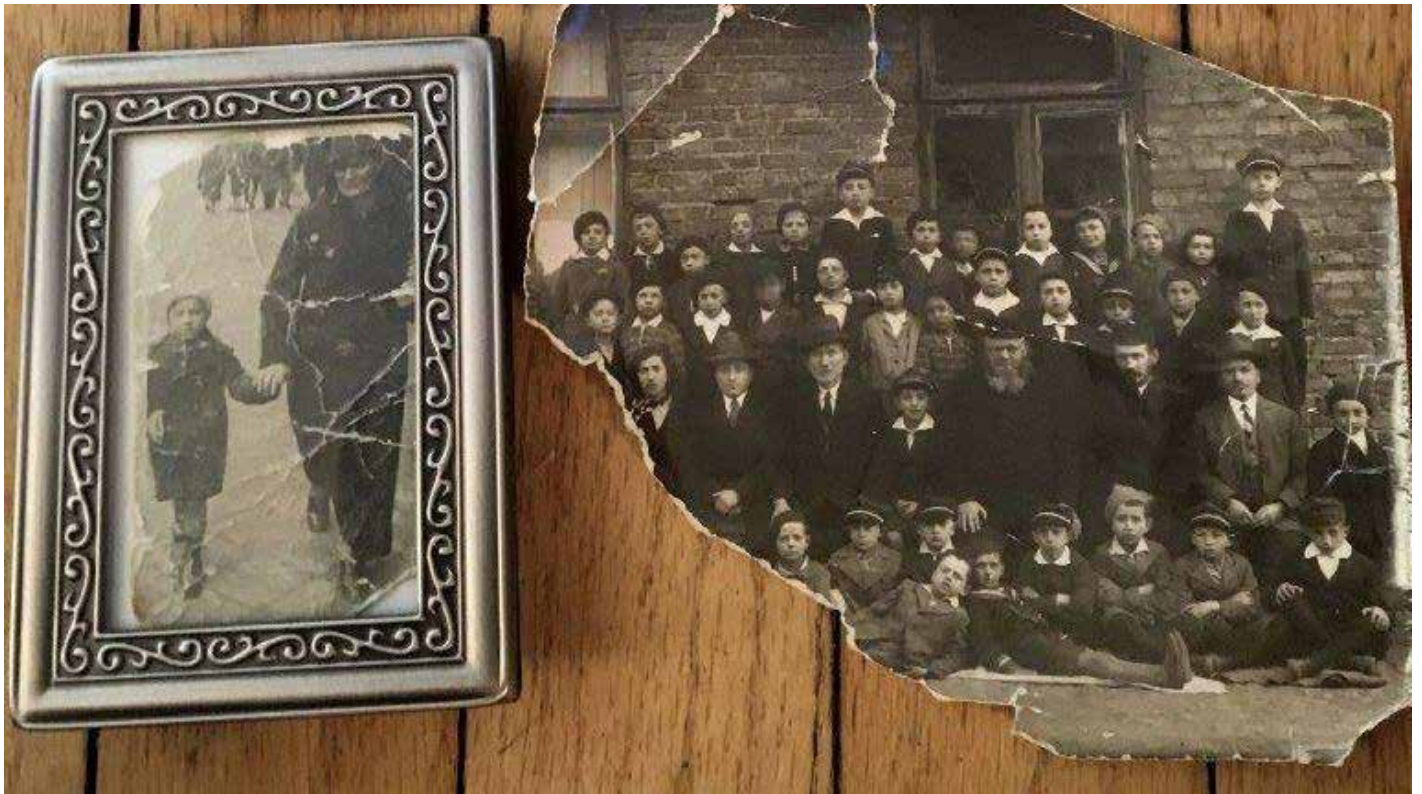
"When your father and I first arrived in New York, we met with some American and Canadian Jews. And they asked us some questions about Auschwitz. 'Was it really as bad as they say?' 'Were the Jews really gassed in showers and cremated in ovens?'"

"Your father and I would do our best to answer their questions. I understood why they had so many questions. Because if I were not in Auschwitz myself I wouldn't believe such things could happen. But it was always painful to talk about my past. I did it because I felt it was my duty to let the world know what really happened in Auschwitz. One time this Canadian Jewish woman said, 'You know we suffered too. During the war we could not buy any nylon stockings.'"

"After I heard this," my mother said, "I realized people didn't want to know about the horrors or they couldn't imagine it or they really felt they suffered too. Since it was so painful to talk about what I witnessed and experienced, I decided I wouldn't talk about it anymore. What was the point?"

If my mother were alive today she wouldn't be surprised that the Polish government recently banned speech that "blames" Poland as a nation for Holocaust crimes committed by Nazi Germany. Nor would she be surprised that she could be sent to jail for three years for attributing the crimes of the Holocaust in part to Polish anti-Semitism.

This new legislation, signed Feb. 6 by the president of Poland, is an attempt to protect Poland's reputation from what it believes is confusion about who bears responsibility for Auschwitz and other concentration camps that Nazi Germany set up in occupied Poland. And it attempts to highlight that around 2 million non-Jewish Poles were themselves murdered by the Nazis. The new legislation casts Poles as blameless victims who suffered too.



Family photos taken before World War II show Mona Sue Weissmark's extended family. All of her close relatives, except her parents, were killed in the Holocaust. (Sue Weissmark)

One might say this new legislation annuls what Elie Wiesel declared when he accepted the Congressional Gold Medal from President Ronald Reagan. "I have learned that the Holocaust was a unique and uniquely Jewish event, albeit with universal implications. Not all victims were Jews, but all Jews were victims."

Recently, Pope Francis said that countries have a responsibility to fight anti-Semitism and the "virus of indifference" that threatens to obliterate the memory of the Holocaust. Francis' statements to an international conference on anti-Semitism were delivered as the mostly Roman Catholic Poland was deliberating the legislation that now outlaws the blaming of Poles for the crimes of the Holocaust.

Francis didn't reference the Polish legislation, but he did reference his 2016 visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp in German-occupied Poland, saying he recalled "the roar of the deafening silence that left room for only tears, prayer and requests for forgiveness."

In a 2010 book, Pope Francis (then Jorge Mario Bergoglio) wrote with Rabbi Abraham Skorka, the future pope and rabbi discussed the Holocaust. Though the question "Where was God?" is an important theological and human question, the pope said, "Where was man?" is an even bigger question.

Recently, the pope has called for Christians and Jews to build a "common memory" of the Holocaust, saying, "It is our responsibility to hand it on in a dignified way to young generations."

I consider my mother's fears as I watch what's unfolding in Poland and I wonder if it is possible to build a common memory of the Holocaust. That will be the challenge to my generation and those that follow.

***Mona Sue Weissmark is a part-time psychology professor at Northwestern and Harvard universities, and is the author of "Justice Matters: Legacies of the Holocaust and World War II" and the forthcoming "The Science of Diversity."***

***Reproduced with permission of the ECAJ (Executive Council of Australian Jewry) - this article appeared in their Newsletter News & Views from Australia and Abroad on 16 February 2018***



## FEBRUARY 2018

The Courage to Care in the Classroom team is delighted to start a very busy 2018 program with the addition of two new Storytellers from Queensland.

In our first program for term 1 we spent four days last week at St Rita's Catholic secondary school in Clayfield, and one day at Marsden SHS, with almost 440 students participating in the program.

Suzy Smeed from Noosa was sent to the Hungarian countryside as a 3 year old for her safety, during the bombing of Budapest. In early 1945 her parents started searching for her, their only child, as she has been moved a few times to new safe houses.

After a miraculous encounter with a lady on a train, who knew about a little red haired girl with a jumper that had her name "Szuszanna" embroidered on it, they were reunited at last. Suzy was living in the barn with the animals, on a farm owned by a courageous elderly lady. Eventually Suzy and her family reached safe haven in Australia.



*The little jumper Suzi wore with her name embroidered on it.*



*Tal with the R badge given to his great grandfather by Bertold Beitz.*

Tal Szumer Menashe is our youngest team member. He is a third generation story teller.

He tells the story of his Saba Adam Szumer, born in Poland to parents employed at an oil refinery. Adam also was sent to safe houses for his protection, starting from 9 years of age. Adam's father received one of the highly prized Bertold Beitz R badges, granting protection if caught in a roundup.

When he was 14 Adam, his parents and 10 others lived in a tiny bunker at the bottom of the refinery garden, only coming out at night to forage for food. 4 months later they were liberated, and within 3 years had safely arrived in Australia. Because of a number of courageous people, Tal is now alive to tell us his Saba's story.

# Managing Lake Kinneret, the only natural freshwater lake in the Middle East

Date: Sunday 25 March 2:30pm,  
Address: 31 Parnassus St, Robertson



**Dr Tamar Zohary** is a senior research Scientist and former director (2007-2015) of the Kinneret Limnological Laboratory, Israel Oceanographic & Limnological Research (IOLR). She joined IOLR in 1989 after completing a BSc and MSc degrees at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a PhD at the University of Natal, South Africa. During the years of her directorship she was in charge of the long-term monitoring program of Lake Kinneret, which began in 1969, and became deeply involved in making process regarding how to manage this lake, the only large natural freshwater lake in the Middle East.

She is currently in Brisbane for a year of sabbatical leave at Griffith University, where she is collaborating with local researchers in studies of phytoplankton (microscopic plants) in Queensland Reservoirs.

In her talk, she will highlight the importance of Lake Kinneret to the State of Israel and explain how it is managed to optimize its functioning as a major source of drinking water while preserving its water quality.



*Aerial photographs of the southern part of Lake Kinneret, with Moshavat Kinneret in the foreground, in 1912 and again in 2003. Note the lack of even a single tree around the lake in 1912.*



*Cost: \$20 per person  
RSVP: by 20 March to  
Susan Segal  
Phone: 3878 7168  
Mobile: 0421 018 209  
Email: wizoariva@hotmail.com*



## ANZAC COMMEMORATION 2018



All Jewish Ex-servicemen & Women, their families & members of the Jewish Community are invited to attend the special ANZAC Commemoration Shabbat service as follows:

The Jewish National Fund of Queensland together with QAJEX and the Brisbane Hebrew Congregation will host the 2018 ANZAC Service & Kiddush at

**The Brisbane Synagogue**

**98 Margaret Street**

**on**

**Saturday 21 April 2018**

**Service commences 9.00am**

To assist with catering, RSVPs would be appreciated to Alan Rose ([info@brishc.com](mailto:info@brishc.com)) by the latest Monday 16 April 2018





## Queensland Association of Jewish Ex Servicemen & Women (QAJEX)

### ANZAC COMMEMORATION 2018



All Jewish Ex-servicemen & Women, their families & members of the Jewish  
Community are again invited to attend

### THE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE ANZAC SQUARE Brisbane

on

**ANZAC Day, Wednesday 25 April 2018**

(Assemble 8.45am sharp followed by Wreath Laying & Kaddish 9.00am sharp)

#### PLEASE NOTE:

The Queensland Association of Jewish Ex-servicemen & Women (QAJEX) encourages all Jewish Ex-servicemen & Women &/or their family members to forward their name & contact details to John Goldman ([john.goldman@optusnet.com.au](mailto:john.goldman@optusnet.com.au)). The purpose is for QAJEX to create a register of Ex-Service personnel & their family members living in Queensland from both Australian & Overseas Defence Forces.

# **Brisbane Chevra Kadisha Tahara Workshop**

**Sunday, 29 April 2018**

**10.00am - 12.00noon**  
(morning tea provided)

South Brisbane Hebrew Congregation  
Givat Zion, 46 Bunya Street, Greenslopes.

**For members of the Brisbane Jewish community  
who can contribute through Tahara**

**Both new and existing Tahara volunteers are invited to attend**

Being involved in a team of 4 or 5 Jewish men or women to prepare a member of our community for burial is a great mitzvah.

Tahara is conducted around 8.30am or 4.00pm (weekdays) to help volunteers manage their day.

We are seeking additional Tahara volunteers to achieve our target of 12 to 15 men and 12 to 15 women who can be available at least a few times a year.

We have a core group of committed volunteers but having more people to draw on would make a real difference.

Looking forward, we see a critical need to enlarge our panel of volunteers for men but also a need for additional women.

**This workshop is designed to train new volunteers and provide insights into Tahara for both new and existing volunteers.**

Please RSVP to:  
Bernie Goldman (Chevra Secretary)  
Email: [info@bck.net.au](mailto:info@bck.net.au)  
Mobile: 0419 652 441

# 2017-18 Celebrating Multicultural Queensland grants program

## Funding round for multicultural projects now open

I am pleased to advise that the funding round under the 2017-18 Celebrating Multicultural Queensland grants program for multicultural projects to be delivered in 2018-19 is now open.

The Celebrating Multicultural Queensland grants program promotes Queensland's multicultural identity, the benefits of multiculturalism, and equitable access to opportunities by people from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Multicultural projects, in alignment with the principles of the **Multicultural Queensland Charter** established under the **Multicultural Recognition Act 2016**, will build community relationships to **Create Welcome, Build Opportunity** and **Celebrate Diversity**.

- **Create Welcome** – engage general community groups (including community associations, service clubs, and sporting groups) in connecting and welcoming migrants and refugees into a wide range of community activities and/or
- **Build Opportunity** – promote opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds to participate and contribute to community projects; support communities to become more cohesive and resilient, and build their capacity to respond to local needs and/or
- **Celebrate Diversity** – bring people together to celebrate our diversity and build a sense of welcome and belonging for all members of the community.

The Multicultural Projects grants round is outcome focussed and is seeking practical and innovative projects that aim to:

- welcome migrants and refugees into local communities to increase a sense of belonging
- increase opportunities for intercultural connections within local communities
- include migrants and refugees in community associations, service clubs and sporting groups
- support regional communities to build capacity to meet the needs of diverse communities
- support the participation of people with a disability from refugee or migrant backgrounds.

Applications are encouraged from not-for-profit incorporated organisations including community groups and organisations, community associations, including service clubs and sporting groups, and local councils. **Partnerships between organisations to deliver projects are strongly encouraged.**

One-off funding of **up to \$25,000 per approved project** is available.

To view the 2017-18 Funding Information Paper for Multicultural Projects, and to access the online application form, please [visit our website](#).

### THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY, 9 MARCH 2018.

For more information, please email Multicultural Affairs Queensland at [MAQfunding@communities.qld.gov.au](mailto:MAQfunding@communities.qld.gov.au).

Please feel free to share with your networks.

Thank you for your continued support for a harmonious, united and inclusive Queensland.

Ms Julie McDougall  
 Director, Multicultural Affairs Queensland  
 Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs



### AMBASSADOR DAVE SHARMA

Dave served as Australia's Ambassador to Israel, from 2013 to 2017. This period coincided with some of the busiest and most productive years for the Australia-Israel relationship, with trade, investment and innovation ties strengthened significantly.

Dave's leadership and diplomacy delivered a number of achievements for Australia, including securing privileged access for Australia into Israel's start-up economy, improved air linkages, better visa products, negotiations to eliminate double taxation, and the launch of the *Tel Aviv Landing Pad*.



### AMBASSADOR BELAYNESH ZEVADIA

An Israeli diplomat, Belaynesh is the first Israeli woman of Ethiopian origin to achieve the title of Ambassador.

Making Aliyah in the 80's from the Gondar Region in Ethiopia with the assistance of the UIA and the Jewish Agency, her story has come full circle, now serving as Israel's Ambassador to Ethiopia. She is a graduate of the Hebrew University and previously served in Israeli consulate posts in Houston and Chicago.

## GENERAL DIVISION



## 2018 CAMPAIGN GALA EVENT

DATE SUNDAY 18 MARCH

TIME 6PM

COVER CHARGE \$50

RSVP BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Thursday 15 March 2018

Phone 3229 4462

Email [admin@uiaqld.org.au](mailto:admin@uiaqld.org.au)

Online [www.uiaaustralia.org.au](http://www.uiaaustralia.org.au)

### OPENING GALA DINNER

**\$50 per person**  
Including Kosher dinner

Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

Cheque

Card Holder \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number

Expiry     Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Special meal requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

RSVP by Tuesday 15 March 2018

**Sunday, 18.3.2018**  
6PM REFRESHMENTS & COCKTAIL PARTY  
7PM EVENT COMMENCES

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SEND TO:  
UIA QLD OFFICE, P O BOX 12042  
GEORGE ST BRISBANE QLD 4003

P 07 3229 4462  
E [admin@uiaqld.org.au](mailto:admin@uiaqld.org.au)  
[www.uiaaustralia.org.au](http://www.uiaaustralia.org.au)

# Matilda and me: how the musical changed my life

*The multi-award winning Royal Shakespeare Company production of Matilda the Musical is currently on a world tour. In 2017 it concluded its Australasian season and has now moved to Korea. A Brisbane boy, Elias Geffen (aged 12), was a cast member for 18 months. This is his story.*



Eli (bottom left) in Matilda cast

Oh wow! How has my life changed! I had been performing in amateur theatre for a couple years when I found out in mid 2016 that the Royal Shakespeare Company were auditioning for an Australian cast to perform in Matilda the Musical. And guess what! I was selected from several hundred kids.

## How I got in

This involved 3 stages of auditions, each one getting more technically difficult. The moments before they called out who got into the next round were the scariest of my life. My heart was pumping so fast! But I kept going and was selected for one of the biggest shows in Australian musical history, that has won more awards than any other.

In August 2016, we started rehearsals. From that day on, I was probably more tired than I had ever been before. We worked five days a week doing both rehearsals and school work through the tutoring system provided by the company. This went on for about 6 weeks until we went to Melbourne to rehearse on the stage of the Princess Theatre which was where the Melbourne cast were finishing their season.

## Melbourne

We were in Melbourne for 4 weeks, although it felt like a single day! It was here that we learned what the stage looked like and how everything worked behind the stage. We carried out technical rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and a real live show (which was incredibly nerve racking at the time). We were organized into three rotating casts of six, as children are not allowed to perform more than three or four night and afternoon shows a week.

## Brisbane

The Brisbane season was at the QPAC Lyric Theatre in South Bank. We rehearsed for about 2 weeks before opening night at which I was lucky to be chosen to perform. Afterwards, there it was, the famous red carpet, which I got to walk on and have my picture taken with Tim Minchin who wrote the music. The "after" party went for so long, we ended up going home at around 2 am when they kicked us out. The Brisbane season lasted about two and a half months. I was performing about three shows a week, rehearsing (still) and being tutored

when I didn't have to perform in a matinee. When the Brisbane season ended, we moved to Perth.

### Perth

The Perth theatre at Burwood was huge and the opening night was again spectacular. There was the red carpet and lots of media people interviewing and photographing us. At the end of the final bow we counted: 3,2,1, there was a loud BOOM and gold confetti dropped into the audience. At the "after" party, there was free ice cream, delicious food and a DJ playing the best songs, to which we danced. We left earlier this time, at about 12.00 am because I had two shows the very next day. And trust me, that's tiring.

I was now fully rehearsed and performing in two roles as either Eric or Nigel. I loved the change of character because I got to do different dance moves and had to learn new dialogue. We left Perth in May after a season of 12 weeks and had another few weeks off in Brisbane, It was good to get home to see my family before leaving again, this time for a 12 week winter season in Adelaide.

### Adelaide

By now, the cast felt just like a family and it seemed normal to be living this very abnormal life. We had our routines although there were always surprises. Sometimes things could go wrong on stage but we were trained to carry on as if nothing happened. Once I had to change roles in the middle of a show which was scary. It happened because by now I was doing two characters in different shows (Eric or Nigel). One night when I was playing Eric, the boy playing Nigel had a bleeding nose and could not continue. I had to change costumes between acts and remember my new lines and moves. This was difficult because Nigel is a bigger part with more dialogue but I managed. I was told that is show business!

I should explain that family members took turns to care for each cast member in an apartment hotel when we were not in the theatre. My Mum, Simone, had most responsibility for which I am so grateful. My Dad, Saul, and my grandparents, Safta and Zeder, also came as carers for a few weeks at a time. When the carers and the kids all get together for birthdays and other special events, you can imagine the noise.

All too soon, the Adelaide season ended with another spectacular closing night and it was back from chilly Adelaide to warm Brisbane for another brief family reunion before we left in August for our final season in New Zealand.

### Auckland

The Civic Theatre venue in Auckland had 900 stall seats and 1200 balcony seats and when the rave reviews appeared there were always full houses. The theatre was amazing! Upstairs there was a mini-ice cream shop that was free, and you could add as many toppings as you



*Eli with two Matildas!*

desired! Before the show started, if you looked up there was a beautiful star ceiling. All too soon the season ended. Everybody in the cast was writing goodbye notes as it was the end of our year long journey.

### Conclusion

There is a song in Matilda called "when I grow up" and I feel I have had to grow up very fast. When I look back over the last year and a half, it feels like a dream, but I know that it has changed me in many ways. Being under contract meant that I had to be very disciplined. The timetable for where I had to be and what I had to do each day was very important. We had to act as a team and not let the others down, no matter how tired we felt.

Away from the theatre, I had to adapt to living in different cities and apartments. I also had to adjust to several different carers (my parents and grandparents all took turns). What helped me a lot was that the 24 children in the cast became like family and I know that when the show ends and we all go back to our homes all over Australia, we will stay in touch by social media and perhaps even have reunions.

I know that I will remember the adult actors and musicians, the creative and technical staff, the tutors and chaperones and especially the Children's manager Dioni, who took such good care of us (and shared challah with me on Shabbat) I can't describe how much I have loved being on this journey with all these amazing people. Perhaps if I continue a career in theatre we will meet up again.

### Post Script

Soon after Matilda ended, Elias successfully auditioned for a coveted place at the Victorian College of Arts Secondary School (VCASS) where he will spend the next 6 years, specializing in dance as well as completing his schooling.

# Socially Yours

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY, FOR THE COMMUNITY

SHALOM Magazine and the JNF of QLD wishes Mazel Tov and Congratulations to the following people who will celebrate their Birthdays in March:

**Lynda Taylor**, 2 March, formerly of Brisbane but now of Melbourne; **Barry Solomon**, 7 March, now of the Sunshine Coast; **David Diamond**, 7 March; **Mira Myler**, 10 March; **Pepsi Sheftz** 75th Birthday, 12 March; **Henry Huppert**, 22 March; and **Pauline Briner**, 28 March.

We wish them many happy returns of the day and years full of joy and happiness

Socially Yours is and always will be news from the community, for the community.

If you would like a special occasion included please email  
[sociallyyours@shalommagazine.org.au](mailto:sociallyyours@shalommagazine.org.au)

JIFF

SHORT  
FILM  
FUND



The Jewish International Film Festival (JIFF) is thrilled to announce the return of its [Short Film Fund in 2018](#). Successfully launched in 2017, the Fund was established to provide funding to Australian filmmakers for the completion of a Jewish-themed short film (narrative, documentary or animation).

“Without the support from JIFF, this film – something near and dear to not only myself, but my family – wouldn’t have been possible. The faith given to the project was meaningful beyond words and has provided me with the opportunity to produce something I can proudly stand behind.” – Anita Lester, director of 2017 winner, Still Alive

In 2018, a total grant pool of \$10,000 is available for the production of two short films (narrative, animation or documentary) incorporating a Jewish theme, character or story arc. We are seeking treatments and scripts for films under 10 minutes that are universally engaging and entertaining, and able to resonate with audiences from all backgrounds.

“We are excited for JIFF, once again, to be a catalyst for the production of great Australian short films to be shared on the big screen, providing a launching pad for their international recognition.” – Eddie Tamir, JIFF Artistic Director

[Applications for the 2018 Fund are now open here](#), and close on 28 March 2018.

## 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

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

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

Grape Juice & Candles available. Contact the  
Shule's Caretaker, Peter Darbishire on (07)  
3229 3412 to make appropriate arrangements  
for payment & collection.

**Web:** brishc.com

## South Brisbane Hebrew Congregation

46 BUNYA STREET, GREENSLOPES

Ph: (07) 3397 9025

Gilad Goldman: 0401 469 709

### SHABBAT SERVICES:

Friday 6:15 pm, Sat 9:15 am

Children's Service on the first Shabbat of each month -  
commencing at 10.20 am

### MAJOR FESTIVALS:

Details as advertised in "Shalom"

## Queensland Jewish Community Services Inc



**24/7  
CRISIS HELP  
1300 544 357**

### ARI HEBER COMMUNITY LIAISON

Phone: 0423 194 737

PO BOX 1202 Stafford City QLD 4053

[ari@qjcs.org.au](mailto:ari@qjcs.org.au)

[www.qjcs.org.au](http://www.qjcs.org.au)

## Brisbane Chevra Kadisha

[www.bck.net.au](http://www.bck.net.au) | PO Box 1296 Toowong QLD 4066

**Should the need arise please call our 24/7  
EMERGENCY NUMBER**

**0406 169 511**

**for the person on call to assist you.**

### For other enquiries:

Graham Eshensky - President  
Phone (M) 0433 414 762

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

Bernie Goldman - Secretary/Treasurer  
Phone (M) 0419 652 441

Leah Steinberg - Director of Tahara  
Phone (M) 0403 171 268

George Hartnet - Funeral Directors  
3356 4277 | 270 Kelvin Grove Rd, Kelvin Grove QLD 4059

Rabbi Levi Jaffe - Phone (M) 0419 136 451



## Beit Or v'Shalom Inc בית אור ושלום

### Shabbat Services

10 am every Shabbat

### Cheder

9:30 – 11:45 am every second Sunday

Enquiries Phone: 0474 306 396  
13 Koolatah Street Carina Qld 4152



Beit Or v'Shalom is proudly affiliated with

UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

## Have an item for Shalom Magazine?

Please ensure all submissions are sent to

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

Only items sent directly to this email address  
can be included in Shalom Magazine.

Items sent to other email addresses cannot be  
guaranteed for inclusion and no responsibility is  
accepted for items sent to alternate addresses.



## ORGANISATIONS

## QUEENSLAND

**Jewish National Fund Qld**Office 3807 9212 - [jnfqld@jnf.org.au](mailto:jnfqld@jnf.org.au)**United Israel Appeal Qld** - 3229 4462[www.kh-uia.org.il](http://www.kh-uia.org.il)**State Zionist Council Qld**3229 4462 - [www.szcqld.org.au](http://www.szcqld.org.au) - [www.zfa.com.au](http://www.zfa.com.au)**Maccabi Qld** - 0420 591 762**WIZO** - 3715 6562 - [wizoqld@aanet.com.au](mailto:wizoqld@aanet.com.au)**Qld Jewish Board of Deputies**

0406 692 491 - CSG 24 hour hotline 1300 000 274

[www.jewishqld.com](http://www.jewishqld.com)**Betar** - [qld@betar.org.au](mailto:qld@betar.org.au) - [www.betar.org.au](http://www.betar.org.au)**AUJS** - 0431 296 215 - David McNamee 0403 688 393**Australia Israel Chamber of Commerce**

3821 4460 or 0412 995 268

**QAJEX** - [loris\\_r@hotmail.com](mailto:loris_r@hotmail.com)**Qld Jewish Community Services** - 0423 194 737**Jewish Help In Need Society of Qld**

Lee McNamee 0417 723 399 - Peter Goldsmith 0409 765 394

**Courage to Care**Kayla Szumer - 0427 380 235 - [kayla@couragetocare.com.au](mailto:kayla@couragetocare.com.au)

## BRISBANE

**Beit Or v'Shalom**[www.beitorvshalom.org.au](http://www.beitorvshalom.org.au) - 0419 267 529**Chabad Brisbane**3843 6770 - [www.ChabadBrisbane.com](http://www.ChabadBrisbane.com)**Chevra Kadisha**0406 169 511 - [www.bck.net.au](http://www.bck.net.au)**Communal Centre Burbank** - Lewis 0419 705 417**Gan Gani Kindergarten & Preschool** - 3378 9233

## NCJWA

Bris Section - 0407 145 739 or 0408 198 533

[www.ncjwa.org.au](http://www.ncjwa.org.au)**QLD Kosher Kitchen**[dvorahjaffe@bigpond.com](mailto:dvorahjaffe@bigpond.com) or 0430 321 314**Rose's Army** - 3345 9509**Sinai College** - 3349 9088 - [www.sinaicollege.qld.edu.au](http://www.sinaicollege.qld.edu.au)

## GOLD COAST

**Gold Coast Hebrew Congregation**5570 1851 - [www.goldcoasthc.org.au](http://www.goldcoasthc.org.au)**Gold Coast Jewish Community Council** - 0432 893 862**Friends of Hebrew University**5539 0632 - [www.austfhu.org.au](http://www.austfhu.org.au)**Magen David Adom**5539 0632 - [www.magendavidadom.org.au](http://www.magendavidadom.org.au)[mdaql@hotmail.co](mailto:mdaql@hotmail.co)**Temple Shalom Gold Coast**5570 1716 - [www.templeshalomgoldcoast.org.au](http://www.templeshalomgoldcoast.org.au)**Sar - El**David Samson - 0429 236 160 - [www.sarelaustralia.org](http://www.sarelaustralia.org)**Gold Coast Chevra Kadisha**

Robbie Ventura - 5596 6919

[chevrakadishgoldcoast@gmail.com](mailto:chevrakadishgoldcoast@gmail.com)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## BRISBANE - REGULAR EVENTS

Community Diary Bookings - Kathy Gould 3411 3664 - 0402 497 413 - [kathygould45@msn.com](mailto:kathygould45@msn.com)**WIZO Aviva:** 2nd Tuesday each Month (n)**WIZO Hadassim Sharon:** 4th Wednesday each month (d)**NCJW Meeting:** 3rd Monday 7.30pm**QJBD:** 4th Wednesday every 2nd month

## GOLD COAST - REGULAR EVENTS

**NCJWA Gold Coast:** Monthly meetings – first Monday of each month – 7.30pm*We are now on Facebook and our website is*[www.ncjwa.org.au](http://www.ncjwa.org.au) - 0412 377 488 - [goldcoast@ncjwa.org.au](mailto:goldcoast@ncjwa.org.au)**Temple Shalom:** Office 5570 1716

-Services: Erev Shabbat 6:30pm, Shabbat morning 10:00am

-Oneg Shabbat: 2nd Friday each month following evening service;

-Seiudat Shabbat: Last Shabbat each month following Torah service

-Groovy Movers exercises: Mon &amp; Wed 10:00 am - 12 noon, Fri 8:00 am - 10:00 am

**Gold Coast Hebrew Congregation:** All enquiries 5570 1851

- Friday Night Live - Uplifting Service every Friday Night - 5:30pm

- Shabbat Kiddush - Following the service every Shabbat at 9:00am

- Kabbala and Jewish Mysticism - Journey of the Soul Monday evening at 7:30pm

- Talmud Classes - Thursday evening at 7:30pm

- Talmud Torah Cheder - Sunday 9:30 - 11:30am

- Women Monthly Rosh Chodesh night

*Have something you would like featured in*  
**Socially Yours?**

[sociallyyours@shalommagazine.org.au](mailto:sociallyyours@shalommagazine.org.au)

## APRIL DEADLINE

### Monday 19 March

*Submissions, letters and articles may be edited for publication.*

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