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CARDIAC CARE IN TIMOR-LESTE

Sisters Elizabeth and Rebecca Paratz recently undertook a trip to Dili, Timor-Leste with the East Timor Hearts Fund to provide volunteer cardiology clinics and assessments for 120 patients. Elizabeth and Rebecca are the daughters of Lawrence Paratz, and nieces of David and Gail Paratz. Their grandparents Louis and Diana Paratz, and great-grandmother Aelsie Magnus were longstanding communal stalwarts of the Brisbane Jewish community.

Dr Elizabeth Paratz is a consultant clinical cardiologist practicing in Melbourne (Cardiologist St Vincent's Hospital and PhD Fellow Baker Heart & Diabetes Institute) and Deputy Medical Director of East Timor Hearts Fund, while Rebecca Paratz is a Year 10 student.

Elizabeth told SHALOM MAGAZINE: Timor-Leste is a tiny country, approximately two-thirds the size of Israel. It also holds the record of being the youngest country in the world, gaining independence in 2002. Unfortunately, despite being just one hour away from Australia, it is one of the world's poorest countries with over half the population living on less than \$1.25 per day. Unfortunately, rheumatic heart disease (a heart disease caused by infections related to poverty) is rife, with 5% of the population having scarred valves at a young age. Other problems like holes in the heart are usually not picked up until they are causing significant problems, unlike in Australia where these would usually be diagnosed at birth (if not before) and treated early in life. Death at a young age from heart problems is tragically common.

At the time of gaining independence, Timor-Leste had just 8 doctors for a population of 1 million people. Although it now has many more doctors, there is still no capacity to undertake

heart surgery within the country, and so patients needing surgery are reliant on travelling to other countries. The cost of travel and surgery is obviously astronomical for the average citizen, and so the East Timor Hearts Fund was founded in 2010 as a non-governmental organization that coordinates cardiac interventions in Australia with required costs funded by Australian donations and all medical care provided pro bono by participating cardiologists and cardiac surgeons. To date, the East Timor Hearts Fund has provided cardiac surgeries and interventions to over 100 East Timorese people.

On our trip, we reviewed dozens of patients each day. Each patient had a full history taken, examination conducted and echocardiogram (heart ultrasound) performed. Patients included Maria, who was in intensive care with heart failure earlier this year and required urgent transfer to Australia, but now is enjoying life as a mum of five boys under 8 including her 7-month-old identical twin boys. Unfortunately many more patients like Maria were seen, and there are currently over thirty patients on the surgical waiting-list who would receive urgent inpatient surgery if they were living in Australia. One of these patients, aged 19 years old, died just two weeks after the clinic – a tragic loss.

The work of the East Timor Hearts Fund is vitally important and we will continue to travel regularly as volunteers.

Rebecca said: I was very privileged to have recently travelled to Timor Leste with the East Timor Hearts Fund (an extraordinary team). Personally, having grown up in a first-world country, such as Australia, I (as many of us) have become accustomed to our comfortable healthcare system; yet unfortunately this same luxury does not exist in Timor Leste.

Almost every single person we examined in the clinic is in dire need of life-saving heart surgery and would receive this treatment if they lived in Australia, except now; they wait, and pray that they are eligible for a trip to Australia that will save their lives.

It was an absolutely wonderful, rewarding, and insightful experience and encourages me to do more and contribute more in the theme of “Tikkun Olam”.

Tax-deductible donations to the East Timor Hearts Fund can be made at www.easttimorheartsfund.org.au



QUEENSLAND KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATION 2022

On Wednesday 9 November 2022 the Queensland Jewish Board of Deputies (QJBD) hosted a commemoration for Kristallnacht.

“Kristallnacht” or the “Night of Broken Glass” involved a series of pogroms carried out on 9–10 November 1938 and is regarded as the beginning of the Holocaust.

In a single night, 92 Jews were murdered and 25,000–30,000 arrested and deported to concentration camps.

The Nazis coordinated the attacks on Jewish people, synagogues, shops and homes across German territory as part of their anti-Semitic policies.

The Kristallnacht commemoration was held at the Brisbane Synagogue and attended by members of the Jewish Community and many multi faith communities.

Nikki Marczak the University of Queensland **Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect** Atrocity Prevention Coordinator delivered the keynote address.

Her speech, “Early warning: genocide prevention through the eyes of my grandparents”, looked at the UN Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Prevention from a personal perspective, sharing the story of her mother’s parents who were deported from Leipzig in October 1938, about a week before the violence of Kristallnacht was unleashed.

Nikki’s speech can be read [here](#) or on UQs **Speeches and Presentations** page, along with other speeches on genocide and atrocity prevention.

The evening also featured several other speakers including Peta and Adam Briner remembering their Holocaust survivor father and Grandfather Zelig Berkhut and Lauren Chalk curator of the Queensland Holocaust Museum and Education Centre (QHMEC) who provided an update on the Centre.

Presentations were made by students from Brisbane’s Brigidine College as part of their Suspend Judgement 2022 Holocaust remembrance program and musical items were provided by the mixed choir Vox Populous.

Rabbi Levi Jaffe of the Brisbane Hebrew Congregation recited the Memorial Prayer in memory of those who perished in the Holocaust

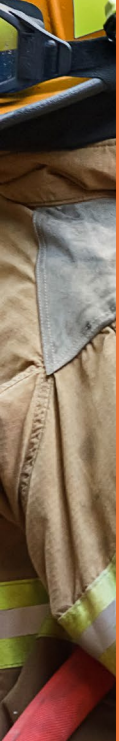
JNF CLIMATE ACTION

JNF announces nationwide plan for fire protection



Jerusalem fires

JWIRE



AT THE CLIMATE CONFERENCE HELD IN SHARM EL-SHEIKH, EGYPT, KKL – JNF ANNOUNCED TWO NEW PROJECTS: A NATIONWIDE PLAN FOR BUFFER ZONES FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND A PLAN FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE BURNED FOREST IN THE JERUSALEM MOUNTAINS.



to move forces and water filling points. In addition, dedicated forestry treatments will be carried out to contain fires, such as thinning, pruning, treatment of lying wood materials, changing the composition of species, irrigation.

The plan for the restoration of the Jerusalem Mountains will include treatment of the damaged forest areas and actions to rehabilitate the forest. The plan to restore the land in the Jerusalem mountains will first include immediate action to eliminate hazards for the safety of travellers in the forest areas.

In the second phase, action will be taken to treat the damaged forest areas with an ecological vision that ensures the preservation of the soil and the recovery of the grassy and stunted vegetation. Finally, operations will be carried out to renew the forest.

Gilad Ostrovsky is KKL-JNF's chief forester and director of the KKL-JNF forestry department.

He said: "The climate change crisis led us to focus on fire prevention and forest restoration as primary goals. Our managements methods based on smart intervention and we conduct ecological surveys in order to protect natural assets in the forest"

KKL-JNF's Chief forester, Dr. Gilad Ostrovsky, held a lecture at a UN side event at the conference where he revealed the two programs.

The fire protection program will include a nationwide mapping of buffer zones around settlements. The plan will contain a fire protection plan for each forest that will include planning designated areas for fire protection, ways

A QUEENSLAND
FIRST

Shoah Holocaust museum to open next year



Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk.

AUSTRALIAN JEWISH NEWS

BY **AUSTRALIAN JEWISH NEWS STAFF**

THE QUEENSLAND
HOLOCAUST
MUSEUM WILL
BE ESTABLISHED
THROUGH \$3.5
MILLION IN
FUNDING EACH
FROM THE STATE
AND FEDERAL
GOVERNMENTS,
WITH BRISBANE
CITY COUNCIL
PLEDGING
\$500,000.

The Queensland Holocaust Museum and Education Centre will open to the public in 2023, it was announced last week.

A first for Queensland, it will be established through \$3.5 million in funding each from the state and federal governments, with Brisbane City Council pledging \$500,000.

“It will honour the legacy of those who faced awful atrocities and will also feature locally recorded stories and will be able to reach the regions through online and mobile exhibits,” Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said. “It will ensure future generations do not forget.”

Museum chairman Jason Steinberg said with 60 per cent of Jewish Queenslanders having reported

experiencing antisemitism, the lessons of the Holocaust are more important than ever.

“We will remember those who perished at the hands of the Nazis ... and we will honour those who survived, as well as those that protected and saved lives,” he said.

“We will educate Queenslanders, Australian and international visitors about the atrocities of the Holocaust, and most importantly we will teach tolerance, acceptance and harmony and give people the courage to stand up against all types of racism, hatred, indifference and antisemitism.”

A “world first” online Holocaust museum is also being created, he said. “At the start of COVID, many museums globally established an online presence based on their physical museums by providing 360-degree tours, webinars and education resources. We thought differently and our digital offering will set a new world standard.”

Queensland Minister for Multicultural Affairs Leanne Linard said a partnership between the museum and the Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane will see it located in Brisbane’s Cathedral Precinct.

“The centre has cemented national and international partnerships to receive artefacts, education and training materials, video stories and displays to share and exhibit,” Linard added. “Locally recorded stories of Holocaust survivors living in Queensland will feature prominently.”

Archbishop Mark Coleridge said it was an honour to partner with the centre. “As a society, we need to work together towards a common goal that overcomes hatred and promotes peace.

“Inter-religious partnerships like this send a strong signal to the community that we are all sisters and brothers in a world where the other is not my enemy,” he said.

ISRAELI ART

Israeli artist's vast, colorful murals bring city buildings to life



*A mural painted on the outside of a nursing home in Petah Tikva, September 2022
(courtesy Moti Shemesh and Israel Airbrush Center)*

THE TIMES OF ISRAEL

BY DANIELLE NAGLER

MOTI SHEMESH USES LARGE, BOLD PATTERNS TO TRANSFORM OTHERWISE UNINSPIRING PUBLIC SPACES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Israeli artist Moti Shemesh started painting and drawing on walls at age 11. Today, he spends much of his time using older buildings across Israel as a canvas and giving them a new life with his designs.

Shemesh's murals are considered an alternative form of urban renewal, which the government has recognized as both popular and necessary in Israel as municipalities up and down the country contend with aging city centers and the demand for more housing.

Murals as a visual art form can transform public and private spaces. Shemesh says city centers in Israel can often feel grey or beige, and he gets commissioned by building owners and municipalities to use his talent to breathe new life into areas that look neglected and uninspiring. Often these areas have little aesthetic, a result of previous building booms where function prevailed and rectangular residential buildings were set up at scale to accommodate waves of new immigrants.

Murals, he told The Times of Israel in a recent interview, can give a sense of place in urban areas.

"Murals influence the atmosphere," said Shemesh. "They change the building's surroundings. Sometimes my work is seen by tens of thousands of people each day as they drive past. From time to time a car will stop while I am working on something, and the driver will tell me how much they like it. Or after I have finished a job people will get in touch to say thank you — it makes me so happy."

"These artistic projects in the public space bring urban renewal, upgrading the city and have a positive influence on residents and visitors. The main goal is to bring art and color to life, for everyone," he explained.



Residential buildings near the Sirkin junction in Petah Tikva, painted by Moti Shemesh, Shira Ariel, Marina Gontcharov. October 2022 (Moti Shemesh/ Israeli Airbrush Center)

He also believes that what he offers is "cut-price urban renewal" at a time when breathing life and identity back into older city centers is a major priority for municipalities.

Shemesh said he was drawn to murals at a young age out of inspiration.

"I was short as a child, and when I stood against the wall it was as if it was superior to me. I didn't want that. When you draw on paper it is still. When you draw on a wall it is a statement, it has a life — it's really different," Shemesh said.

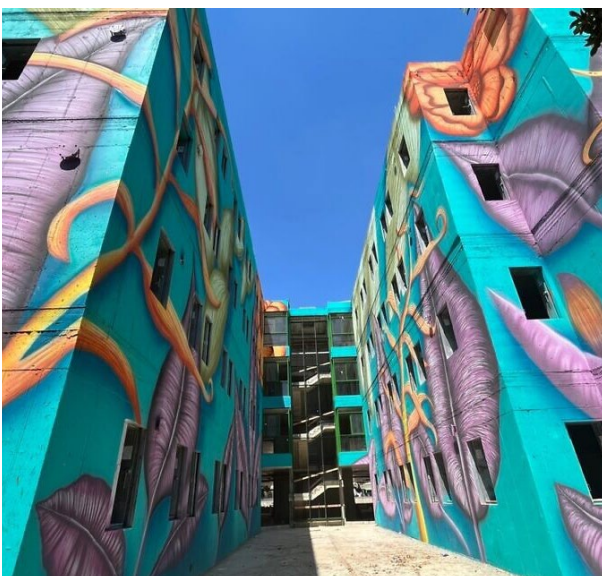
Known for his big, bold patterns, Shemesh has been creating murals across the country for over 30 years. He's done work for both public and commercial clients, including Coca-Cola, Bezeq, Goldstar beer, amusement parks, restaurants, private homes, sports grounds, and multiple municipalities and business owners.

A Rosh Ha'ayin resident, Shemesh said he draws from a large pool of inspirations and particularly likes to bring flowers and nature back into the dry concrete centers of many Israeli cities.

The overall process of creating a mural can be long and involved, he said. The most important factor is "understanding the budget we are working [with] and after that the shape and the individual characteristics of the building [such as] windows, trees planted against it, all the elements that will have to be blended with a final mural."

The creative process considers "what is right for this area or for the people that live or will pass through here," he said.

"For a living space, I want the design to bring calm and joy. In an industrial space, there can be more movement and energy. One of my other important parameters is



whether people will like the work. When I can, I ask them at the design stage, talking to clients, or using social media to reach out," he explained. The preparation stage involves creating a grid to map out the design for each square of space. On a large surface, Shemesh and his colleagues will use a spray gun to paint, harnessing a tool that can cover a surface much more quickly than an airbrush. Brushes and rollers may get used in particular parts of the mural, but the spray gun uses less paint and leaves no brushstrokes, said Shemesh.

As for delivery, Shemesh says it is possible to get a design up on a wall in two days. But a more complex design and building — like the work he did on a nursing home in Petah Tikva — takes much longer. That work took around five months, he said.

Shemesh said that unlike graffiti, which delivers a statement or expression by the artist, his murals target an identified audience to transform or enhance their surroundings. His artistic expression is part of the work, but the end result is driven by the needs of a given community.

In the past few years, Shemesh established the Israeli Airbrush Center together with his partner Hay-li Shemesh.

The organization was set up to help other artists develop the skills needed for this kind of work and build a creative community where members inspire each other and work together on different projects.



Artist Moti Shemesh at work on the mural in a school in Petah Tikva that pays tribute to the late Israeli musician Arik Einstein. (courtesy Moti Shemesh and Israel Airbrush Institute)

Shemesh is hoping to work on bigger projects like taking a whole group of buildings and transforming them simultaneously to refocus the feel of the entire area.

His grand vision is for “an open museum all across Israel.”

“I want another 100,000 tourists from across the world to visit Israel each year to see my art...I want through my art to connect people from different communities. I have a dream of peace and I believe that art — my art — can play a role in that,” Shemesh said.



Artist Moti Shemesh at work on the mural in a school in Petah Tikva that pays tribute to the late Israeli musician Arik Einstein. (courtesy Moti Shemesh and Israel Airbrush Institute)

ASK THE RABBI

Mixed Seating in Shule



RABBI RAYMOND APPLE

Rabbi Raymond Apple was for many years Australia's highest profile rabbi and the leading spokesman on Judaism. After serving congregations in London, Rabbi Apple was chief minister of the Great Synagogue, Sydney, for 32 years. He also held many public roles, particularly in the fields of chaplaincy, interfaith dialogue and Freemasonry, and is the recipient of several national and civic honours. Now retired, he lives in Jerusalem and blogs at www.oztorah.com

Q. Why do Orthodox synagogues not permit mixed seating?

In the Temple in Jerusalem the crowds that came to celebrate the festival of the water drawing (“simchat bet hasho’evah”) on Sukkot were so large and boisterous that, as the Mishnah puts it (Sukkah chapter 5), a gallery was erected in the “ezrat nashim”, the court of the women, as there was a fear that the overflow of men into the women’s section would lead to levity and immorality.

Hence “it was enacted that the women should sit above and the men below” (Sukkah 52b).

It had, however, already been customary that men and women should pray separately: when the Israelites crossed the Red Sea (Ex. 15) Moses and the men, and Miriam and the women, sang their songs of thanksgiving separately.

The halachic position is therefore that separate seating is both the long-established Jewish pattern and also, as Rav Soloveitchik puts it, required by “the Jewish spirit of prayer”.

“Prayer,” he writes, “means communion with the Master of the World and therefore withdrawal from all and everything. During prayer man must feel alone, removed, isolated...”

“The presence of women among men, or of men among women, which often evokes a certain frivolity in the group, can contribute little to sanctification or to the deepening of religious feeling, nor can it help instil that mood in which a man must be immersed when he would communicate with the Almighty...”

“Such a state of being will not be realised amid family pews.”

But if prayer requires existential loneliness, why do we not pray on our own without a congregation? The answer is threefold.

1. King Solomon says, “In the multitude of people is the King glorified” (Proverbs 14:28), i.e. though each worshipper has an individual dialogue with God, all join in a chorus of acclamation of the Creator.
2. Yehudah HaLevi states that in a congregation each worshipper helps the others spiritually: one helps to overcome the spiritual defects or hesitancy of the other.
3. We are at one and the same time separate individuals and members of society.



The Jewish National Fund (JNF) has been Building Israel since 1901.

The JNF of Australia is a prominent and trusted communal organisation celebrating over 120 years of life-changing, environmental and social welfare projects, and building communities in Israel all the while maintaining a tangible link between the Jewish People and Israel.

Today JNF Australia is working to ensure that the people of Israel who live in the underdeveloped periphery of the country, particularly in the Negev, have a brighter future and can also share in the Israel's success story and ensure its ongoing sustainability.

JNF Australia is a separate entity and independent of JNF organisations in other countries, including in Israel.

However each JNF organisation wherever situated are linked, by a shared history, emotion and mission to further their mutual purposes and objectives for the people of Israel.

As David Ben Gurion said, **“JNF is an everlasting Jewish fund for the entire Jewish people. It lives and lasts not because of work well done in the past, but because of vital work in the present and, even more importantly, because of the great, important tasks still awaiting it in the future.”**

Every JNF project is a unique and wonderful way of identifying with Israel and its people and provides all of its supporters an opportunity to solidify their link with the people of Israel.

For more information about JNF go the JNF Australia website jnf.org.au or contact JNF Queensland President David Jacobs on 0412 578 368



Let me introduce myself to you.

I am a fifth generation of Jewish bakers that had bakeries in Europe in early 1900. With the Second World War, my family escaped, and some made Aliyah and settled underneath the Tabor Mountain in Kfar Tavor. My grandfather opened a bakery in the small village and both my dad, and his brother have baked since they were kids.

I was born in that bakery and grew up with the amazing smell of fresh bread every day.

During the pandemic I worked from home and had the time to experiment with different baking recipes, and from baking for my own family needs (Friday's Kiddush), friends started to ask me to bake for them. Thereafter, more people have asked to buy my bagels and challah on a weekly basis, usually Thursday or Friday.

I have certified my home kitchen to meet the food regulations and named the business from the first goodies I baked. Since the beginning, I have only baked for orders to ensure everything stays fresh and there is no waste.

In addition to the bagels and challah, I bake chocolate - cinnamon babka, pita bread with zaatar and honey cake.

I would very much like you to try my baking – you won't be disappointed

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New COVID-19 advice system given green light

A new traffic light advice system will provide Queenslanders with information on the current COVID-19 threat, including guidance on when and where they should wear masks.

Chief Health Officer Dr John Gerrard said the COVID-19 traffic light system would simplify health messaging, in an era where living with COVID-19 is the reality and no longer treated as a public health emergency.

“Queenslanders have been dealing with COVID-19 for almost three years now, and all the way through they have shown an eagerness to do the right thing to protect themselves, their families and the community,” Dr Gerrard said.

“This new COVID-19 traffic light system will provide Queenslanders with an easy-to-understand guide to the level of risk posed by the virus and provide advice on when they should consider increasing their personal protective measures, such as wearing masks indoors, or when they can relax things a bit.”

Dr Gerrard said there were three levels in the new system – green, amber and red – and these levels would be communicated to the public via the Queensland Health website, social media accounts and through the media.

“When there are low rates of community transmission the traffic light setting will be green,” Dr Gerrard said.

“If you’re asked to wear a mask – for example, by a healthcare provider, or if you’re providing care to a vulnerable person – we ask that you cooperate with that request.

“If community transmission increases to moderate rates, the traffic light will change to amber.

“Queenslanders will be advised to wear masks in healthcare settings, indoors when they can’t socially distance, on public transport, if they are older, immunocompromised or have other health issues, or if they are around people who are vulnerable to COVID-19.

“Close contacts will also be advised to take a rapid antigen test (RAT) every two days.

“Should we reach the stage where community transmission gets back to high rates, we’ll change the traffic light setting to red.

“When the traffic light is red – the highest of the three levels – people will be advised to follow all the advice for the amber and green colours, as well as wearing a mask while indoors, even when they can socially distance.

The traffic light setting will be reviewed regularly, and the level will move up, down or stay the same depending on the rate of COVID-19 transmission in the community at the time.

Queensland's traffic light system levels correspond with the tiers in the national COVID-19 community protection framework for a COVID safe Australia.

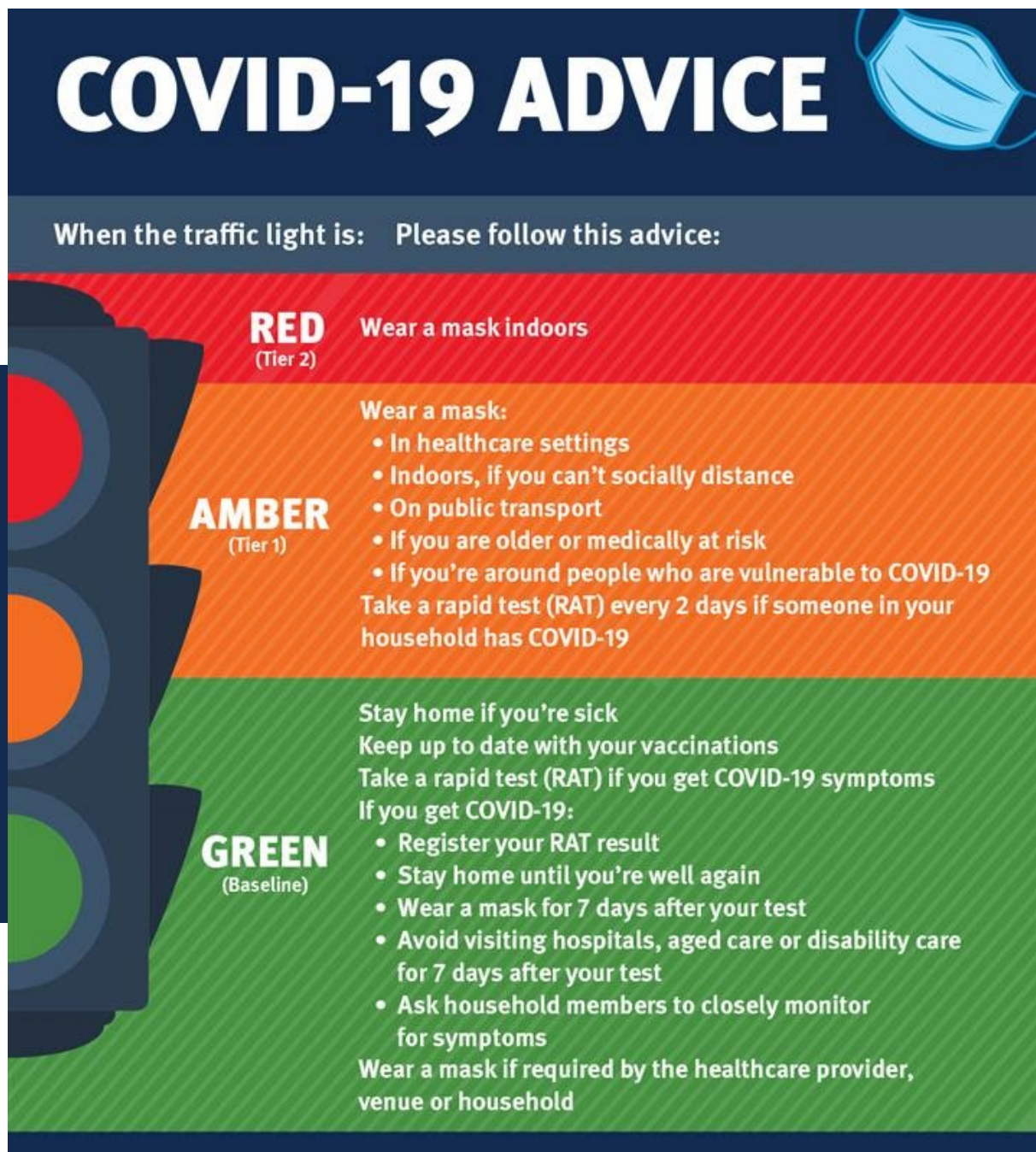
On 31 October 2022, the last remaining Chief Health Officer public health directions were revoked. Hospitals will revert to existing infection control practices, rather than mandatory mask wearing.

The introduction of the traffic light system comes as Queensland's declared public health emergency for COVID-19 officially ended 31 October 2022.

From 1 November 2022 the Chief Health Officer will have limited powers to mandate mask wearing, require isolation for people with COVID-19 and quarantine for symptomatic close contacts, and mandate vaccinations for workers in certain settings. If these powers are used, they would supersede the traffic light advice system.

COVID-19 will continue to mutate so it is important Queenslanders remain vigilant and responsive and do their part to limit the spread of the virus by staying at home when they are sick, washing their hands regularly and keeping up to date with their vaccinations.

For more information visit the [Queensland Government website](#).

A graphic titled "COVID-19 ADVICE" featuring a traffic light on the left and a blue surgical mask on the right. The traffic light has three colored sections: red (top), orange (middle), and green (bottom). The text is organized into three corresponding colored sections with a diagonal line pattern. The red section is labeled "RED (Tier 2)" and includes the instruction "Wear a mask indoors". The orange section is labeled "AMBER (Tier 1)" and includes instructions to "Wear a mask:" followed by a bulleted list of situations, and "Take a rapid test (RAT) every 2 days if someone in your household has COVID-19". The green section is labeled "GREEN (Baseline)" and includes instructions to "Stay home if you're sick", "Keep up to date with your vaccinations", and "Take a rapid test (RAT) if you get COVID-19 symptoms", followed by a bulleted list of actions to take if you get COVID-19, and "Wear a mask if required by the healthcare provider, venue or household".

COVID-19 ADVICE

When the traffic light is: Please follow this advice:

RED
(Tier 2)

Wear a mask indoors

AMBER
(Tier 1)

Wear a mask:

- In healthcare settings
- Indoors, if you can't socially distance
- On public transport
- If you are older or medically at risk
- If you're around people who are vulnerable to COVID-19

Take a rapid test (RAT) every 2 days if someone in your household has COVID-19

GREEN
(Baseline)

Stay home if you're sick
Keep up to date with your vaccinations
Take a rapid test (RAT) if you get COVID-19 symptoms

If you get COVID-19:

- Register your RAT result
- Stay home until you're well again
- Wear a mask for 7 days after your test
- Avoid visiting hospitals, aged care or disability care for 7 days after your test
- Ask household members to closely monitor for symptoms

Wear a mask if required by the healthcare provider, venue or household

Kellie Bogan well known in the Jewish Community and a former graphic designer for SHALOM Magazine has officially launched his own business “Livestream Event”.

Livestream Event covers all live and recorded events both for private functions and for communal group events – for more information and to contact Kellie see below

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QUEENSLAND ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH EX-SERVICEMEN & WOMEN



On Sunday 13 November 2022 to mark Remembrance Day the Queensland Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men & Women (QAJEX) and communal friends attended a special service at the Gravesites of Jewish Servicemen who died while serving during the 2nd World War & who are buried at Lutwyche Cemetery in Brisbane to pay tribute to those Jewish service personnel who gave the supreme sacrifice during the World Wars and other conflicts. The Ode and Kaddish were recited and the Last Post played.



FIRST QUEENSLAND CKIDS SHABBATON

GOLD COAST NOVEMBER 2022

Elia Adler, a young girl living in Cairns, Australia, boarded a plane to Gold Coast, gathering with Jewish children her age for the first-ever CKids Shabbaton in Australia.

The excitement swelled inside her, for she, along with many of the children who joined from all over Queensland Australia, live in remote places that have small Jewish communities. Indeed, as Elia met Rabbi Ari and Mushkie Rubin of Chabad in Northern Queensland, she told him how happy she was to be at the Shabbaton, explaining that, “back home I’m the only Jewish girl in my school so I’m so excited to meet some new Jewish friends from around the state” said Elia.

From all over Queensland, children gathered to participate in the Shabbaton as well as a trip to the central amusement park. The event was hosted by Rabbi and Rebbetzin Nir and Dina Gurevitch, as well as the Gold Coast Hebrew congregation. It was organized and accompanied by Mushkie Kantor and Moussia Cooper, Rabbi Ari and Mushkie Rubin, Rabbi Levi Jaffe of Chabad Brisbane and Rabbi Menachem and Shevi Aron from Chabad of RARA.

The weekend was a coordinated program of several Queensland Chabad Hebrew schools, Chabad of Northern Queensland, the Chai Kids in Brisbane, and the Gold Coast Hebrew Congregation Hebrew School, as a reward for children who participated in the international

JewQ Jewish learning competition. The competition was inaugurated three years ago as a way to build momentum for kids to learn more about Judaism, and bring Jews from across Australia together.

Rabbi Zalmy Loewenthal, director of CKids International, says this Shabbaton was “a major success in allowing Jewish children who aren’t exposed to a large Jewish community to come together and connect to their Jewish identity.” The Shabbaton was filled with delicious food, wonderful company, and an array of exciting activities, including a Motzei Shabbat (Saturday evening) bowling trip.

On Sunday, the weekend culminated in a most exhilarating trip to the theme park Movie world, which left all the children loading the bus back from the park, on a high. The bus was organized by the Sinai College, and driven by gracious bus driver David Groen.

Rabbi Mendy Kotlarsky, Executive Director of Merkos 302, in response to the Shabbaton, said, “It is Shabbatons like these, which demonstrate what the purpose of CKids is all about, in fulfilling the need of ensuring that the next generation has meaningful and personal Jewish experiences.”

As parents came to pick up their children, they were greeted with beaming faces and cheering of Jewish songs and chants; the kids ready to go back to their homes as ambassadors of light and Jewish pride.

A mother of two children who participated in the Shabbaton said her family was “planning on moving up north to Sunshine Coast in the mountains where there are no Jewish people. I am so grateful that my kids could come to this Shabbaton, and continue to connect to Jewish traditions through JewQ and all the wonderful programs that CKids does.”

Ben Miller, a ten year-old-boy from Brisbane, said that this was the best weekend of his life, and he had so much fun, “making new, friends, playing games, learning new brochos, and learning more about what it means to be Jewish!”

Rabbi Rubin of Chabad in Northern Queensland said that the uniqueness of the Shabbaton was “not just that the kids had a good time, but that they are leaving proud of being Jewish, with a whole community to support each other, even if they live far away.”

To learn more about CKids Australia visit ckids.net.au

Cairns and Brisbane Ckids with Rabbi Rubin of Chabad North Qld. on the bus to the Gold Coast





DIARY OF AN UNFORGETTABLE ISRAELI EXPERIENCE

Libby Burke (QJBD Chair – Public Relations) was in Israel during September and part of October 2022.

Before going to Israel Libby contacted the Jewish National Fund of QLD (JNF) to find out if there were any JNF tours in Israel she could go on while she was there and after discussion it was arranged and organised for Libby to go on a one day tour of JNF Australia projects in the Negev.

Libby was so impressed overawed and excited by what she saw and experienced on the tour that she agreed to let SHALOM Magazine have access to her diary so that everyone could understand the work JNF Australia is doing in Israel and a difference it is making to the region.

Here is an extract from Libby's diary from the day

3 October 2022

The Negev - I have explored the North of Israel, and now I explored the South - the Negev desert, where Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben Gurion, felt this area (which is 60% of Israel's land mass) was the future of this tiny nation. The population of city centres like Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa are increasing so the Negev provides a great opportunity for sustainable development.

First up, a big thank you to Jewish National Fund of Qld President David Jacobs , JNF Australia National Executive Assistant Ety Ayalon and Zeevik (JNF Australia Israel Tour guide) who facilitated and organised this tour which was led by the knowledgeable and intelligent Gideon Shavit.

The day started with a special breakfast hosted by Ramat Hanegev Regional Council Mayor Eran Doron, who is Mayor for the region of Ramat Hanegev - an area that covers 30% of the Negev and has a population of only 6000 residents.

Next we visited the JNF Australia - supported Shezaf community and met with Shmuel, one of the founders of this special place. In 2011 Shmuel and 14 other families realised a vision to create a community in the Negev that comprises both secular and religious Israelis - a place where people were respected for their belief system, whatever that may be. Today there are 28 families and the idea is that this new community will eventually be home to 500 families.

I have provided a photo of the plaque erected to acknowledge the efforts of JNF Australia in supporting Shezaf

The Negev - Post 2:

The Beersheva JNF Australia ANZAC Memorial Centre. Admittedly, my knowledge of wars and battles of WWI is limited (so thanks Gideon for adding this to the itinerary), so visiting this JNF Australia museum and learning about the Battle of BeerSheva (October 1917) and the bloody brave efforts of our Australian ANZAC Light horsemen was incredibly moving. The museum guide, Colin, is an absolute ANZAC Wiki. After watching an engaging film on the battle, unbeknownst to me the theatre was one big elevator so at the end you exit up a few levels onto the balcony overlooking the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery of the fallen soldiers. So impactful.

The Negev - Sderot. This is the town that cops most of the rockets from Gaza. So many amazing things about this town. First up: its growing. There is so much development here, a reflection of the fighting spirit of Israelis and refusal to be deterred by the rockets and utter resilience, strengthened - again - by JNF Australia's support of (the aptly named) The Resilience Centre. One feature here is the animal therapy centre, which uses animals to help children who suffer PTSD from the bombardment of rockets. Currently this centre treats more than 70 children each week. They use a variety of animals in their sessions. I was ok to bond with my feathered friend Lychee (who said I wasn't into animals), the snakes - however, mmm, not quite yet.

From there we visited another JNF project: rocket proof kindies. In Sderot, residents have 15 seconds to run to shelter once the rocket sirens go off. Imagine living like this. For kindy teachers this is especially difficult as they need to gather all the children and get them to the bomb shelter within 15 seconds. Again, I ask you to imagine this ... The Israeli Government passed legislation that all kindies/early childhood centres in what's called the Gaza envelope would have specially built, virtual kindy bomb shelters so that they can learn and play safely without fear of making it to a bomb shelter in 15 seconds. These centres have special reinforced concrete and minimal windows.



Sha'ar Hanegev Regional Council International Relations Director Yahel Ben-Aris explains the construction process and the need for this protection for the area's children. Again, thanks to the JNF Australia for doing their bit to help keep the children safe.

In this post you'll see numerous beautifully painted buildings amongst a huge playground. These are all bomb shelters for the children. The gorgeous lake was another JNF initiative.

The Negev - Post 4:

Gideon's added bonus/surprise for me. A drive to the Gaza border. We are at the Black Arrow, a memorial site for Israeli paratroopers. Behind me is the border fence with Gaza, just about 500m away.



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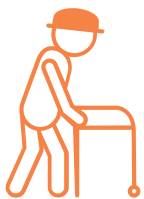


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Brisbane and Queensland JCareQld:

Howard Posner
Tel: 0424335969 • Email: Jcareqld@gmail.com

NCJWA Gold Coast / Gold Coast Jewish Community Services Inc.

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If you think you might need our services, or know someone who might, please contact :



**HOWARD POSNER : 0424 335 969
JCAREQLD EMAIL : jcareqld@gmail.com
JCAREQLD HELPLINE :1300 133 660**



**Gold Coast Jewish Community Services / NCJWA Gold Coast Inc.
BARBARA STEWART-KANN : 0412 377 488**



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THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF QLD (JNF QLD)

has moved its office:

JNF QLD President David Jacobs

Vice President Bruce Frey

Office Manager Rebecca Frey

If you have any queries or wish to discuss anything about JNF QLD
please feel free to contact **David Jacobs JNF QLD President on 0412 578 368**

The new contact details are:

Phone: 3392 9830

Mobile: 0412 578 368

Postal address: PO BOX 3015 Yeronga 4104

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98 Margaret Street, Brisbane

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Synagogue Office Tel: 07 3705 0312

Sick Visitations Phone Rabbi Jaffe: 0419 136 451

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Should the need arise please call our 24/7
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for the person on call to assist you.

For other enquiries:

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M 0433 414 762

Bernie Goldman

Treasurer

M 0419 652 441

Paul Gould

Vice President

M 0422 638 663

Rabbi Levi Jaffe

M 0419 136 451

TzuriShaddai (Domenic)

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M 0431 581 086

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Regular Services

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Saturday Afternoon:

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
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Eli Saranga

Chairman

Shlomo Cohen

President

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Mobile: 0434 724 052

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QUEENSLAND

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www.jnf.org.au	jnfqld@jnf.org.au
United Israel Appeal Qld	07 3229 4462
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JCare Qld	1300 133 660
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Courage to Care	0427 380 235
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www.goldcoasthc.org.au	
Friends of Hebrew University	07 5539 0632
www.austfhu.org.au	
Magen David Adom	07 5539 0632
www.magendavidadom.org.au	mdaqld@hotmail.com
Temple Shalom Gold Coast	07 5570 1716
www.templeshalomgoldcoast.org	
Sar - El David Samson	0429 236 160
Gold Coast Chevra Kadisha	
Robbie Ventura	07 5596 6919

QLD STATEWIDE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ALL COMMUNITY DIARY BOOKINGS

calendar@qjbd.org

BRISBANE - REGULAR EVENTS

WIZO Aviva	2nd Tuesday each Month (n)
	07 3715 6562
	wizoqld@gmail.com
NCJWA Meeting	3rd Monday 7:30pm

GOLD COAST - REGULAR EVENTS

NCJWA Gold Coast	Monthly Meetings
www.ncjwa.org.au	7:30pm - 1st Monday of each month
Barbara Stewart- Kann OAM	0412 377 488
President	ncjwagoldcoast@gmail.com
Temple Shalom	Office 07 5570 1716
Services	Erev Shabbat 6:30pm Shabbat Morning 10am
	Oneg Shabbat 2nd Friday each month
	following services
	Seiudat Shabbat Last Shabbat each month following Torah Service
	Groovy Movers Exercise
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Services	Friday Night Live
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	Shabbat Kiddish
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	Kabbala and Jewish Mysticism
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	Talmud Classes
	Thursday evening at 7:30pm
	Talmud Torah Chader
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Communal News

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FRIDAY 20 JANUARY 2023

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