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In the aftermath of October 7, the clear vision of JNF is to help heal Israel's South, especially the devastated families from the Gaza border communities. Their healing and return will be a symbol of hope and strength for future generations of Israel.

As we transition from emergency to immediacy, JNF Australia is delivering projects that directly address the physical and emotional well-being of these families, such as vital mental health and rehabilitation services, trauma therapy and resilience programs.

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Pesach Campaign

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People and Place*



POINT OF VIEW

‘Pro-Palestine’ campus mobs think Jew-hatred is progressive



JWIRE

BY **JONATHAN S TOBIN**

*Jonathan S. Tobin is editor-in-chief of JNS (Jewish News Syndicate).
Follow him: @jonathans_tobin*

Ideas that reduce complex problems into simple mantras are always popular.

But those that cloak a political ideology in the sort of language and symbolism in sync with the cultural fashions of the movement and allow people to imagine themselves on the right side of history can spawn world-changing movements. When young people especially are indoctrinated with such notions—the idea of correcting a historical wrong—the results can produce the shocking surge that’s unfolding right now on U.S. college campuses.

The spectacle of a critical mass of this current generation of American college students—egged on by many of their professors and even administrators—chanting slogans about erasing the State of Israel from the map (“from the river to the sea”), cheering on Islamist terror against Jews everywhere (“intifada revolution” and “globalize the intifada”) and speaking openly about banning the presence of “Zionists” from their midst, if not condoning violence against them, has shaken many Americans. That is especially true for liberal Jews and others who believe that antisemitism is primarily if not solely a problem on the political right.

Yet the most important part of this story is what hasn’t happened. Instead of a united nation responding to these expressions of hate and bigotry with one voice, many declarations are being heard in defence of what are, for all intents and purposes, a burgeoning mass movement supporting the Hamas terrorist movement that carried out the manifold atrocities in southern Israel on Oct. 7.

Toxic leftist ideas

How is it possible for what is supposed to be the best and the brightest of American students—those who attend Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Cornell and many other elite universities where the “pro-Palestine” protests have sprung up—to embrace

such a profoundly evil cause?

The simple answer for what should be seen as responsible points to the intellectual fashion of the day, which, for lack of a better term, we are forced to call “woke” ideologies. The toxic ideas of critical race theory and intersectionality, which teach that the world is permanently divided between “white” oppressors and people of color who are their victims, have decided that Israel and the Jews belong to the former, and Hamas and its mass of Palestinian supporters are among the latter.

These ideas have been mainstreamed of late in America’s educational system and culture. Since the moral panic about race that occurred in the Black Lives Matter summer after a Minneapolis police officer killed George Floyd in May 2020, they have become the new orthodoxy against which dissent is not permitted in U.S. leading institutions.

While some of us have been pointing out for years that the BLM movement and the ideas behind it grant a permission slip for antisemitism, this has only become obvious to most people in the last six months. To the horror of many Jews, the largest mass slaughter of Jews since the Holocaust didn’t engender sympathy for Israel or the Jews. Instead, it provided the spark for a surge in antisemitism around the world almost immediately after Oct. 7.

Many Jews believed they could always count on enlightened liberal opinion in this country not only to condemn expressions of right-wing Jew-hatred in the strongest terms but to also isolate it. Instead, they have watched with amazement and concern as the mobs engaging in antisemitic invective have been defended or rationalized in mainstream liberal media like The New York Times and MSNBC as idealists or, at worst, emotional kids whose actions are an understandable reaction to Israeli

atrocities. In doing so, those who are taking this line aren't just repeating and spreading Hamas propaganda and blatant falsehoods. They are accepting the premise that opposition to the existence of the one Jewish state on the planet is somehow the natural political position of those who call themselves progressives.

'Very fine people'

Indeed, much like the BLM riots that wreaked havoc in American cities in the summer of 2020, the campus protests are being described as "mostly peaceful." The narrative about the campus mobs in much of the corporate media is that they are mere "pro-Palestine" and that any antisemitism is merely the excessive behaviour of a few marginal people who don't represent the true spirit of the protests.

Almost as troubling is the fact that even when the antisemitic nature of the protests is recognized, the core problem is ignored. It's not just that those taking part are engaging in demonstrations where Israel and its supporters are demonized, Jewish rights erased and Jews are being threatened. It's that the people doing this don't think they are wrong. They are convinced that they are speaking up for a righteous cause. Not only is that false premise being reinforced by mainstream press coverage, but it is also being upheld by leaders of the political left.

Indeed, the most outrageous example of that didn't come from Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.), who is notorious for her own antisemitic statements and who showed up on the Columbia campus this week to show solidarity with the "pro-Palestine" mob in the company of her daughter, a student at Barnard College who had been suspended for her role in violating the school's rules.

The best encouragement the students received was from President Joe Biden, who, when asked about antisemitism on college campuses, condemned it but then added that he was just as concerned about "those who don't understand

what's going on with the Palestinians." It was, as Alan Dershowitz and Andrew Stein wrote in *The Wall Street Journal*, a "very fine people" moment for the president.

That referenced the infamous claim that former President Donald Trump had said that there were some "very fine people" among those who gathered in Charlottesville, Va., in August 2017 for the neo-Nazi "Unite the Right" rally. Of course, Trump didn't say that since he was referencing those who opposed the taking down of Confederate statues, and not Nazis or members of the Ku Klux Klan.

While that distinction was ignored in the media scramble to condemn Trump, Biden is largely getting a pass for his own effort to treat the cause that the antisemitic agitators are supporting as valid. The point being is that much of the media and leftist opinion are treating those yelling slurs at Jews as "very fine people" who are just going a little too far in their advocacy.

In the wake of Columbia University president Minouche Shafik's ambivalence about enforcing the school's rules against illegal demonstrations and hate speech, the narrative in the liberal media has again flipped with *The New York Times* concentrating on what they see as a wrongheaded decision to call in the New York City Police Department to remove the pro-Hamas encampment (though the tents returned the next day). Indeed, the paper's urban affairs columnist Ginia Bellafante wrote that the main problem isn't campus antisemitism but the willingness of administrators to punish the antisemites, who she and those reporting in the news section analogized to the anti-Vietnam war and anti-South African apartheid demonstrators of the past.

A movement steeped in ignorance

What is lacking in the coverage and most of the discourse is that—as interviews with them show—most of the students

even at a school like Columbia can't really explain why they are against Israel except by mindlessly repeating slogans about racism and oppression that have nothing to do with the facts on the ground in the Middle East or patent falsehoods about "genocide" in Gaza. They don't know the history of the conflict and seem to think that Israelis and Jews are, as Palestinian propagandists claim, settler/colonialists in the one country in the world where Jews are, in fact, the indigenous people. Their demands for university divestment from Israel are based on intersectional ideology in which the century-old Arab war to deny Jewish rights is falsely depicted as analogous to the civil rights movement in the United States.

The ignorance of these young adults is pathetic, as is their absurd cosplaying in which the wearing of keffiyehs has become campus terrorist chic. Lacking their own strong identity, they are adopting one that they perceive will give them some cachet as supporters of an embattled though fashionable cause. But having been spoon-fed the same lies that spawned the BLM movement throughout their educational experience, in which antisemitism has been redefined as progressivism, no one should be surprised by any of this.

Nor should we accept the claim that they are merely demonstrating sympathy for Palestinians or shock at human-rights violations. Far greater losses of life in wars in the Congo or Sudan—and an actual genocide in Western China where Beijing has put an estimated 1 million Muslim Uyghurs in concentration camps—haven't moved them to utter a single word. If they really were for peace or the theoretical cause of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, they would be in favor of eradicating Hamas, which is opposed to any peace that doesn't involve the destruction of Israel and the genocide of its people.

The sad truth is that massive numbers of students at elite schools and elsewhere have been taught to adopt the Hamas Charter, whether they understand what

they are supporting or not. If you think that Zionism—the national liberation movement of the Jewish people—is racism, you are denying rights to Jews that no one would think to deny to anyone else. That is antisemitism. If you are advocating for a ceasefire that would allow Hamas to get away with mass murder, you are supporting Hamas. And if you think Israel is illegitimate and should be destroyed, you are also supporting Hamas terrorists, and their genocidal plans and actions.

Tolerating the intolerable

People who advocate for hateful ideologies—whether they are directed at African-Americans, Jews or anyone else—have a First Amendment right to express their views. But they don't have a right to be tolerated in educational institutions or treated as principled dissenters in the Times. We all know that there is zero tolerance for neo-Nazis or other right-wing extremist Jew-haters at American universities or in the liberal media. But because these institutions have been captured by woke ideologues and mainstream politicians like Biden fear their wrath, their moral equivalents on the left demonstrating on college campuses to "free Palestine" are tolerated, rationalized, excused and even lauded as heroes. In doing so, we are being asked to tolerate the intolerable.

To be "pro-Palestine" today is not to stand up for oppressed people. To the contrary, it is an expression of solidarity with latter-day Nazis and a willingness to mainstream hatred of the Jewish people, not just Israeli policies. But to condemn them is not enough. The only way to explain what has happened and to do something about it is to roll back the woke tide and purge schools, cultural institutions and the mainstream media of those spreading racist ideas that foment this toxic hatred. Until the "progressive" ideas at the heart of the problem are dismantled, all the hand-wringing and expressions of concern about campus antisemitism will be meaningless.



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OPINION

A bad taste in the mouth



JNS

BY **BEN COHEN**

Ben Cohen writes a weekly column for JNS (Jewish News Syndicate) on Jewish affairs and Middle Eastern politics. His writings have been published in the New York Post, The Wall Street Journal, Commentary, Haaretz and many other publications. *His articles are reproduced in SHALOM Magazine from time to time.*

Reading through restaurant reviews, I didn't think (because there was no reason to) that the Gaza war would show up, but it did.



Newspaper left on a park bench. Credit: un-perfekt/Pixabay.

For several years now, my media consumption habits have been guided in part by what I call my “escape routes.”

As someone who spends his days immersed in reports and analysis of news events that are extraordinarily depressing—war and conflict in Europe and the Middle East, the inexorable rise of antisemitism and other forms of prejudice, the historical precedents for the difficult political questions we confront today and much else on similar lines—I need these escape routes for the good of my mental health. They also remind me that while I'm paid for the privilege of writing and thinking about politics and international affairs, millions of people pursue careers and projects that have nothing to do with my

concerns, which is precisely why I use the term “escape routes” when I read about their endeavors. They are a window onto the calmer and more leisurely world that exists out there, and my visits fortify me when I go back to the issues that matter to me both professionally and personally.

It's why I read the sports pages, to monitor the teams I follow and read what the coaches and players are saying. It's why I read music reviews, to check up on whether my favorite bands are in the studio or if they are touring, and hopefully, discover some new gems. It's why I adore restaurant reviews, not just of establishments in the cities where I live or work but of eateries further afield. This—all of this—is a harmless escape, a chance to read some decent writing that

isn't about politics, allowing me to return to my own writing feeling refreshed. But I have to tell you, this method isn't really working anymore.

In the last six months, since the Oct. 7 Hamas pogrom in southern Israel unleashed a war that has dominated the media, I've seen my escape routes pulled into my professional concerns. The sports pages have been littered with reports of discrimination against Jewish athletes, such as the firing of South Africa's U-19 cricket team captain because he is Jewish, or the refusal of the Irish women's basketball team to stand respectfully for the "Hatikvah," Israel's national anthem, immediately prior to a contest in which, happily, they were trounced by their Israeli opponents. Music has become a cesspool of artists, including some whose songs I love, with them signing up to various boycott initiatives targeting Israel alone, leaving cutting-edge Israeli acts—like the electronic duo Red Axes, whom I interviewed recently—feeling isolated and rejected. And now, I've discovered that even restaurant reviews, of all things, are no longer immune from any mention, let alone criticism of, Israel's military actions in Gaza. The disapproval and the resentment are pervasive, seeping into the corners of websites and news outlets that would normally have no business discussing Israel and the Palestinians, or any other conflict (and, of course, they don't tend to discuss those other conflicts.)

Over the last week, I've encountered two items on the food pages like this. The first was the eagerly awaited New York Times list of the top 100 restaurants in the city. I clicked on that in order to see whether I'd visited any that made this year's selection, as

well as choose some of the establishments where I'd like to go. I didn't think (because there was no reason to think) that the Gaza war would show up here, but it did.

The food critic at the Times, Pete Wells, classified one restaurant—Falafel Tanami, in the Midwood section of Brooklyn, at number 65—as "Israeli." In the accompanying paragraph describing the food, Wells didn't mention the word "Israel" or talk about the conflict once. Instead, he waxed lyrically about the quality of the falafel balls served there. But that wasn't the case with the restaurant that came in at number 74—Ayat, an eatery that is also in Brooklyn that Wells classified as "Palestinian." In this case, Wells used half of his allotted paragraph to tell us that its main location features a mural of "Palestinian children behind bars under the Aqsa Mosque, between the phrases 'down with the occupation' and 'live in peace,'" adding that as "Ayat has multiplied locations, it has kept up its paired messages of peace and support for the people of Palestine." I came away from reading that wondering whether the recommendation was for the food or for the politics. Needless to say, none of the other cuisines emanating from countries that are also global trouble spots—Nigeria, Mexico and Korea, among them—warranted similar treatment.

After the Times, it was The Guardian. That paper, which is known for its harsh coverage of Israel, published a review last weekend of a non-kosher, Ashkenazi-style deli in North London by its food critic, Jay Rayner. I knew that Rayner was Jewish, in part because I'd seen some good-natured joshing from some of his Jewish readers about his fondness for pork and seafood dishes. But that didn't prepare me for what I read.

Rayner did spend most of the review talking about the food, which he said he enjoyed, while noting that the chicken-soup broth needed more salt. But then came the clincher: “Could I really write about a Jewish restaurant given the current political turmoil? Would I get abuse for doing so?” Rayner wrote. “Surely better to keep shtum. At which point I knew I had no choice: I had to write about it. The horrendous campaign of the government and armed forces of Israel in Gaza cannot be allowed to make being Jewish a source of shame.” He proceeded to berate Israel for allegedly making “life for Jews who live outside Israel and have no responsibility for the decisions its government takes, so very much harder,” before concluding: “And so I sit here with my terrific salt beef sandwich and my chocolate mousse, indulging that bit of my Jewish identity which makes sense to me. It’s not much, but it’s all I have.”

It’s nearly impossible to imagine Rayner, or any other food critic, mentioning the persecution of the Uyghur minority by the Beijing regime in a review of a Chinese restaurant or asserting that a reviewer of Chinese origin is obliged to invoke this crisis of conscience in a discussion of Peking duck. Not so with Jewish cuisine, especially when some Jewish writers are all too willing to join in the chorus of opprobrium. One has to ask, if a Jewish restaurant was serving Sephardic staples like kubbeh or chicken with couscous, instead of Ashkenazi ones like chopped liver or latkes, would a review of that establishment contain a barb about how these dishes have been appropriated by the Jewish colonizers from the Arabs, without mentioning the long, largely unhappy sojourn of Jewish communities in Arab countries? If so, it’s safe to say that none of the editors would bat an eyelid upon receiving such copy.

I am not, of course, asking for sympathy now that my media escape routes have been closed down; there are far more pressing matters of life and death to worry about. My point is that if we have really reached a juncture where a discussion of eating out necessitates critical mention of Israel but no other country—a trend likely to worsen following the tragic deaths of seven World Central Kitchen (WCK) aid workers in Gaza last week—it’s further proof that the Palestinian issue dominates the Western conscience more than any other. And because of its naked one-sidedness, it leaves a bad taste in the mouth.





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Living Like A Local In
Israel After October 7th:

Experiences From Aardvark Israel's Students

When we say that our students *“live like a local,”* we don't just mean seeing Israel through rose-colored glasses.

Aardvark Israel runs four different gap year and semester programs for Diaspora Jews aged 17-21. We aim to foster personal growth in each of our students, strengthen their Jewish identity, and solidify a connection to Israel in young Jews from around the world. Through internships and volunteering, independent urban living, and formal and informal educational opportunities throughout the country, Aardvark Israel students immerse themselves in Israeli culture authentically, beyond the scope that a tourist might do.

When Israel was attacked on October 7th, we, along with the entire nation, were caught by surprise. Faced with national trauma, concerned for the safety of our students, while some of our staff members were called to army reserve duty and others dealing with the loss of loved ones, we faced a difficult dilemma: How do we move forward and give our students a meaningful and authentic Israeli experience while also facing challenges of maintaining their safety and emotional well-being? While some programs chose to delay opening, cancel completely, or even move their program to another country, for us there was no other answer than to continue in Israel.

To truly *“live like a local”* is to experience the highs and lows of what Israelis go through on a daily basis. It means bearing witness to the struggles of living here, as well as capturing the beauty of the country, the Zionist dream, and the culture of the Jewish people.

Yonatan Scott from Sydney joined our program in August and was here during the events of October 7th. He chose to remain in Israel following October 7th. Yonatan shared his thoughts on staying in Israel when the war broke out:

“I decided to stay because I didn't want to throw away my gap year, and I wanted to have some sense of purpose to the Israeli community during the war. I also wanted to stay because I wanted to make a difference in the war and do anything I could to help rather than sit idly back at home.”

When the war broke out, we found meaningful ways to contribute to the national effort. Our staff and students volunteered on a daily basis. We opened a daycare for children whose parents had been called up to the army, volunteered at food packing sites, helped families who were displaced from their homes, and more.

“Aardvark gave us many opportunities to volunteer and help Israel in multiple ways. Some of my favorites were getting to go to an army base and spend the day preparing food packages for evacuated families, and meeting and playing games with kids who had left from Ashkelon to temporarily stay in Tel Aviv. This gave me a sense of purpose and warmed my heart,” says Yonatan Scott.

On the 9th of January, 120 students from 12 different countries joined our students who were already in Israel for the Aardvark Israel Spring semester. Words cannot describe how moved we were to see that even during these challenging times, young Jewish people are still seeking connection to the land and people of Israel.

“I chose to come to Israel because I feel more at home here. It also gives me a wider perspective of what is happening in Israel firsthand, rather than seeing it online. In the beginning, I was quite worried that if I came to Israel, it would be very dangerous and difficult to live here. However, I was assured by the fact that friends and family were here, as well as the Israeli community standing strongly with one another during this difficult period,” said Ellia Nahmias from Sydney, who joined the program in January.

While to some people outside of Israel it might seem crazy to send their child here right now, to us at Aardvark Israel, it makes sense. It is more important than ever for Jewish young people to maintain their connection to Israel. For Corey Tusak from Melbourne, it wasn't a question at all.

When his original gap year program decided they were not planning on coming to Israel due to the situation, Corey decided to join Aardvark Israel. Corey said, *“If anything I felt more empowered to come to Israel after October 7th. In Australia, I had*

experienced heightened levels of antisemitism from school, from the public and from people I called friends. Being in Israel feels even more important now knowing that at least my identity as a Jew was not a threat to my existence.”

While Israeli young adults their age are fighting on the front lines, Diaspora Jews fight on the online front lines; one way they can do that is by creating authentic connections with Israelis, sharing Israel's reality through their own eyes.

“I believe it is meaningful to come on a gap year to Israel as it gives more perspective on the country and its ideals, rather than relying on propaganda for false information,” Ellia said.

It certainly has not been a typical year for Aardvark Israel or our students, but our students have had a unique opportunity to connect with the people of Israel in a very real way. One thing remains true for us in times of both war and peace: the future of the Jewish people relies in part on the connection between Israel and the Diaspora. By coming to Israel and seeing the reality of life, our students define and solidify their connections to Israel and their Jewish identity. We hope that our students will become strong advocates for Israel, to share with the world what they experience here as they continue to their next step in life.



Brisbane Jewry of Yesteryear 1920s -1930s

Do you know who these people are?

A member of the Community has identified some of the people pictured below. *Are you able to identify any others*



In the April issue of SHALOM Magazine we invited community members to identify those people in the photo published. Tracey Child has made contact and submitted the colourised version photo as above and the following information. Many Thanks Tracey for your response to our item.

I am Ruth and Bert Boock's daughter and in the photo are my Grandmother, Great Grandmother and 2 x great aunts.

In the back row in a red dress and red hat is Elsie Defries (married Boorstein)

Next to her in the light blue with white is her twin sister Esther Defries who passed away when she was 16. I am guessing the girls are 15-16 years old here.

In the front row on the very right side is Rebecca Defries known to all as Becky (married Boorstein) 2 sisters married 2 brothers.

In the Back row 5th from the left is their mother Sarah Defries. In a brown overcoat brown dress and brown hat.

Barny Defries is not in this photo at all.



Gan Gani CELEBRATES PURIM

Last term Gan Gani learnt about the festive Chag of Purim, which culminated in dress-up days for both groups.

We shared how to be courageous, brave and stand up for what's right and bullying is a 'no go'!

The children and teachers came dressed in a wide range of costumes.

We had superheroes, mermaids, princesses, robots, queens, doctors and even Harry Potter.

The children enjoyed making their freshly baked Hamantaschen. They also made groggers, built the king's palace and enjoyed participating in the Purim Shpiel.

Thank you to everyone for your Gold Coin donation.

What a fun day!

Sally Twina
Teacher/ Co-Director
Gan Gani Community Kindergarten





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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 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 to the JNF Australia website jnf.org.au or contact JNF Queensland President David Jacobs on 0412 578 368



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Over the past 120 years, INF has helped make the Zionist dream a reality, creating life changing environmental and community projects across Israel, particularly in Southern Israel.

In the wake of the brutal Hammas terror attacks in Israel's South, JNF's work has never been more significant.

JNF is committed to healing and rebuilding communities as a vital part of protecting our homeland and the people of Israel for generations to come.

We cannot take Israel's existence for granted

With violent antisemitic attacks increasing all over the world, it has never been more important to preserve Israel as a sanctuary for the Jewish people and a source of strength, comtort and security.

Remember JNF in your Will

One of the most significant ways to ensure the protection, growth and sustainability of communities in Israel for years to come is by making a gift in your Will to JNF.

Your bequest to JNF will help rebuild Israel's devastated communities and assist in keeping Israel strong and vibrant.

Your generosity and spirit remembered forever

INF welcomes bequests no matter how large or small. A gift in your Will is a perfect way to make a valued gift to Israel whilst maintaining needed funds in your lifetime. Your commitment to Israel will benefit generations to come and leave a lasting legacy.

What will your legacy be?

If you would like to learn more about leaving a gift in your Will to INF, please contact Romy or Len on 1300 563 563 or send an email to Romy@inf.org.au for a confidential chat.

Together we will keep Israel strong

Romy Dinte
Planned Giving Manager
JNF NSW

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Planned Giving Consultant
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you can work
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C2C Qld EDUCATION REPORT

The Courage to Care Program (C2C) aims to promote social harmony and reduce prejudice by using stories of rescue during the Holocaust, to inspire and empower students to be UPSTANDERS rather than bystanders when they witness discrimination.

Our final week of school visits for Term 1 of the school year aptly took place during Harmony Week. Our teams wore a “splash of orange” in support of cultural diversity, inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians. We shared this message with nearly 400 students across the week at:

**St Andrew's
Anglican
College**
Year 6
120 students

**St John's
Anglican
College**
Year 10
129 students

**Brisbane
Central State
School**
Year 6
59 students

**Hills
International
College**
Year 10, 11 & 12
60 students

**Saint Mary's
College
Kingaroy
(via Zoom)**
Year 10 & 11
30 students

Survivor Peter Baruch with students at Hills International College.



The C2C team wearing a "splash of orange" for Harmony Week, L-R: Rosemary Solomon, Survivor Suzi Smeed, Debi Grossman, Phillip Zavelsky, Kayla Szumer, Michelle Watt, and Delwyn Cameron.

Thank You

We are grateful for our passionate volunteers who share their knowledge and experience at Queensland schools, and have such a positive impact on students and teachers alike:



“It is important to take actions against discrimination so we can have an inclusive and peaceful society.”

Year 6 student, Brisbane Central State School

“I wanted to express our heartfelt thanks for the amazing presentation your team provided for our Year 10s at St John’s Anglican College. We are all so appreciative of the time, knowledge and willingness of the team to come and present to our students. We all learnt something new – it was very inspiring. The students very much valued the input from Peter and his willingness to share the experiences of his family and their life. Rosemary’s presentation was so interesting and presented in such a thoughtful and age-appropriate way to our 15/16 -year-olds. The breakout groups provided a great opportunity for the students to actually think about what they might do in a difficult situation where someone was being discriminated against. Thank you all for organising this precious opportunity for our students.”

Teacher, St John’s Anglican College

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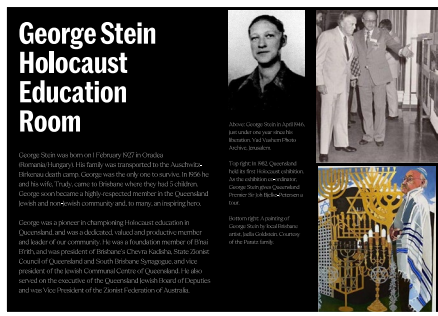
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Good Can Always Come From Adversity

THE REMARKABLE LIFE OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR GEORGE MOSHE STEIN



Michael Stein

Michael Stein has written a biography called Good Can always Come from Adversity.

It is a true documented recollection of his late father George Moshe Stein who was a survivor of the Shoah having survived Auschwitz – Birkenau (where his father, mother and sister perished), Dora Labour Camp where he was incarcerated underground, for 12 months constructing the v2 Rockets under forced Labour and Bergen – Belsen The Living Hell.

The biography not only tells about the Holocaust, but George's Tears, Trials, and Tribulations, in his journey to find new beginnings in Eretz Israel and finally in Australia and Brisbane where he became a leader of the Jewish Community in so many ways.

Michael says “the reason for writing this book is quite simple, my father was in end of life care when I visited him two days before his passing. He looked me straight in the eyes and said, I do not want to go yet, there is a lot more that I have to say, go and finish the story and I did - we must never forget”.

The book has now been published and was launched at the Queensland Holocaust Museum on the 3rd of March 2024. It was a very emotional and humbling occasion with the dedication of the George Moshe Stein Memorial Education Centre occurring at the Museum at the same time.

The book is available at the Queensland Holocaust Museum and at all good book retailers, a full list of retailers is available at the publishers [website echobooks.com.au](http://www.echobooks.com.au) or by email at michael@michaelstein.au

All profits from the sale of the book will be donated to the Queensland Holocaust Museum in memory of George Stein .

Michael told SHALOM Magazine “George’s dream was the establishment of a state-of-the-art Holocaust Museum in Queensland, the only downside being is that he never saw this dream come to fruition. This book forms an integral part of Queensland Jewish History, and people should have the opportunity of reading and being educated about the Holocaust”.

MELODY OF GENERATIONS

Leone Engel (nee Briner).

"Melody of Generations" is a labour of love written initially for our four grandchildren which I commenced during the lengthy period of Covid 19 and completed earlier this year. However, as I was compiling the Memoir I felt that it was my privilege of allowing the heritage of both my maternal Simkin-Leiboff and paternal Frankel-Briner Families to be proudly perpetuated for future generations.

I am humbled that it is now being widely read also outside of Australia.

It is a journey of my forebears maternally and paternally from Russia, experiencing the hardships of life including the pogroms and escape to the refuge of the City of Harbin in Northern China where my Dear Mum Violet Briner (nee Lev-Leiboff) was born in 1919. A copy of her Birth Certificate written in Hebrew, Russian and Chinese is shown in this edition.

There were at one stage approximately 20,000 Jews living in Harbin with a broad-section of citizens formerly from Russia and a variety of European Countries who made Harbin their new home up until the 1950's.

You may be surprised to learn that Shanghai wasn't the only Jewish Community in China and you will learn that my story will progressively move from Harbin to Brisbane.

I feel very blessed to have had such wonderful parents as Violet and Phillip Briner who guided my brother Michael and I within both the Jewish and wider communities of Brisbane in the 1940's - 1960's. Both Harry, my loving husband of almost sixty years, and I, have done our utmost to follow through with their life values.

Every small story from each of us is a building block of our future and more importantly so since 7th October 2023! It was wonderful to memorialise my parents as stalwarts of the Brisbane Jewish Community and their marriage in the beautiful Brisbane Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in August 1941.

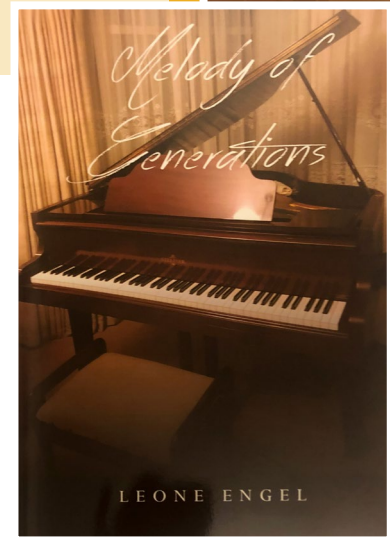
Following, there was Harry's and my marriage in this wonderful edifice where the much respected Late George Frey OAM was one of our witnesses in August 1964 at our Chuppah Ceremony.

The branches of the tree grew with both our daughters, Bettina and Jodie, also each having their Bat Mitzvah Ceremonies there and our Grandson, Aiden, his Bar Mitzvah Ceremony.

If you wish to purchase a copy of my Memoir, "Melody of Generations", the cost is \$20.00 per copy plus postage, packaging and handling.

Please email me at: leoneaengel@gmail.com

Thank you for travelling with my story and for this amazing opportunity which has been afforded to me with "Shalom Magazine".



ional, autobiography
es a rich symphony
and success from a
dark heart of Russia,
ard of China, to
groomed and nurtured
nts as it made its own
an administrative hub
his.
s sometimes poignant
c family story adds a
osaic of Jewish history
insightful model for
ev of the world today.

News

National Council of Jewish Women of Australia (NCJWA) is planning to celebrate its 101st year with a National Jewish Women's Summit.

Hear top speakers responding to the important issues of our time.

August 3-5th 2024.

Details to follow.

Gold Coast Jewish Community Services Inc is now registered & knowns as
JEWISH CARE SOUTH-EAST QLD INC

President: Solomon Ezekiel

Vice President: B Stewart-Kann OAM

Secretary: Alvin Maradeen



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<p>New members, please advise Synagogue with which you have a current or past connection:</p> <p>_____</p>					
<p>Membership \$ _____ Donation \$ _____ Total \$ _____</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Family (includes non working children living at home) \$60</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Family concession (Full Centrelink or DVA pension) \$40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single \$35</td> <td>Single concession (Full Centrelink or DVA pension) \$25</td> </tr> </table>		Family (includes non working children living at home) \$60	Family concession (Full Centrelink or DVA pension) \$40	Single \$35	Single concession (Full Centrelink or DVA pension) \$25
Family (includes non working children living at home) \$60	Family concession (Full Centrelink or DVA pension) \$40				
Single \$35	Single concession (Full Centrelink or DVA pension) \$25				
<p>Payment Options:</p> <p>1. Direct deposit or bank transfer to Brisbane Chevra Kadisha BSB 064002 Account 00270838 Existing members: If no changes, just fill out what the payment is for and the name of the person paying New or existing members with changes: Pay and email completed form or details to treasurer@bck.net.au</p> <p>2. If you do not wish to pay by direct deposit or bank transfer: Please complete this form and mail with your cheque payable to Brisbane Chevra Kadisha to: Treasurer, Brisbane Chevra Kadisha, PO Box 1296 Toowong DC Qld 4066.</p>					
<p>Please support the Brisbane Chevra Kadisha by annual membership, donations & bequests, planning for the future, making your wishes known, ensuring details of your Jewish name and heritage are known.</p> <p>Strong support from community members has enabled the construction of toilet facilities at the Brisbane Chevra Kadisha Chapel at Mt Gravatt Jewish Cemetery. Please consider donating this year to assist us with further improvements to Chapel surrounds.</p>					
<p>Funeral and monument costs are substantial (refer https://bck.net.au). We suggest community members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with trusted advisers to organise finances and insurances • Join the Chevra: We perform many duties when a Jewish person passes away and Chevra Kadisha fees (for Tahara, Jewish chapel, coordination) are incorporated into the overall funeral and burial costs charged by George Hartnett Metropolitan Funerals, Kelvin Grove, the funeral directors who support your Chevra Kadisha. The Brisbane Chevra Kadisha fee component is reduced for members (5 years continuous) • Work through the Chevra to pre-purchase a burial plot at Mt Gravatt cemetery's Jewish Section • Consider the 'Guardian Plan' (https://www.guardianplan.com.au), accessible through George Hartnett Metropolitan Funerals, as a way to pre-pay future funeral fees at today's prices. 					



Jewish Help in Need Society of Queensland

Jewish Help in Need Society of Queensland is a registered not-for-profit Charity which provides financial assistance in the form of no-interest loans to members of the Jewish Community in Queensland.

**Interest free loans are available
for those in dire financial need and assistance.**

Confidentiality is respected at all times.

**Contacts: Lee McNamee 0417 723 399
leemcnam@gmail.com**

**Peter Goldsmith 0409 765 394
pgoldsmth@bigpond.net.au**

* If a loan is to be given, it shall be interest free and subject to the borrower entering into a Loan Agreement which stipulates the amount of the loan and the amount and frequency of the repayments. Depending on the size of the loan, a Guarantor may also be required to enter into the Loan Agreement.





PLEASE HELP US LOCATE
THOSE IN NEED

77 years

.....
have passed since the Holocaust, an act of unimaginable evil and a continued stain on human history.

Although we can never forget and should constantly revisit this memory we can be proud that Judaism and Yiddishkeit has survived and continues to flourish today.

IN THIS SPECIAL YEAR WE WISH TO RAISE OUR PROFILE TO EXTEND OUR HELP AND SUPPORT TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST AMONGST US, PARTICULARLY HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS IN QUEENSLAND.

If you know of any survivor who is struggling in their old age, who needs support and care and who may not be aware of the existence and purpose of our organisation we would like to hear from you.



We remember all the survivors and although many have passed the few remaining provide us with an inspiration **TO NEVER ALLOW THE SHOAH TO OCCUR AGAIN.**

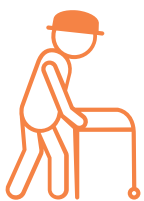


We can assist



with visits, transport, social contact, arranging medical help, liaison with Claims Conference, and some limited financial assistance.

JCareQld is a charitable association that provides care to the **Queensland Jewish Community**



Particularly the elderly but also the young who need assistance.



Brisbane and Queensland JCareQld:

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

NCJWA Gold Coast / Gold Coast Jewish Community Services Inc.

Barbara Stewart-Kann
Tel: 0412 377 488 • Email: bkann@bigpond.net.au

PLEASE CONTACT 



**Reaching out
to support
members of the
Jewish community
in Queensland.**

 **Coronavirus (Covid-19)**

 **Aging**

 **Disability assistance**

 **Mental Health**

 **Family trauma**

 **Shoah survivor
assistance**

 **Education**

www.jcareqld.com



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www.jcareqld.com



Email: jcareqld@gmail.com

JCareQld is a charitable association that provides help to members of the Queensland Jewish Community.

We offer assistance with issues of aging, mental health, family trauma, disability assistance, and Shoah survivor assistance.

We have volunteer professionals, including family therapists, social workers and psychologists, as well as access to Claims conferencing for Shoah Survivors, NSW Jewishcare Sight Impaired Services including free access to current news and affairs.

Our volunteers are also available to assist with transporting people with mobility issues to social events, shopping, and Shule.

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

NCJWA Gold Coast - JEWISH CARE SOUTH-EAST QLD INC
Barbara Stewart-Kann Tel: 0412 377 488 • Email: bkann@bigpond.net.au

**Reaching out
to support members of the
Jewish community in Queensland.**



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

Email: jnfqld@jnf.org.au



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BRISBANE HEBREW CONGREGATION



THE BRISBANE SYNAGOGUE
98 Margaret Street, Brisbane

Regular Services

Shabbas, Friday evening: Ma'ariv 6pm

Shabbat Morning: 9am

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 6am

Synagogue Office Tel: 07 3705 0312

Sick Visitations Phone Rabbi Jaffe: 0419 136 451

www.brishc.com

Brisbane Chevra Kadisha

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

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)

DeMartini-Scacheri

Secretary

M 0431 581 086

George Hartnett Metropolitan Funerals

When making contact, please refer to Jewish
community / Brisbane Chevra Kadisha requirements
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MISHKAN ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

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Regular Services

Friday Evening:

(Summer time)

Saturday Morning:

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
sages

Shlomo Cohen

President

Email: Shlomocohen357@hotmail.com

Mobile: 0411 150 896



ORGANISATIONS

QUEENSLAND

Jewish National Fund Qld	07 3392 9830 0412 578 368
www.jnf.org.au	jnfqld@jnf.org.au
United Israel Appeal Qld	07 3229 4462
www.uiaaustralia.org.au	
State Zionist Council Qld	07 3229 4462
admin@szcql.org	www.szcql.org
Maccabi Qld	0402 428 213
Wizo Qld	0417 788 449
Sylvia Lipski (President)	sylvialipski@gmail.com
Qld Jewish Board of Deputies	0411 239 396
www.jewishqld.com	
CSG 24 Hour Hotline	1300 000 274
BETAR Daniel Mendels	0468 396 594
www.betar.org.au	qld@betar.org.au
AUJS President - Carmi More	
www.aujs.com.au	cmore@aujs.com.au
Australia Israel Chamber of Commerce	07 3847 0259 brisbane@aicc.org.au
QAJEX	lorisr@hotmail.com
Qld Jewish Community Services	0423 194 737
JCare Qld	1300 133 660 jcareqld@gmail.com
Jewish Help in Need Society of Qld	
Lee McNamee 0417 723 399	Peter Goldsmith 0409 765 394
Courage to Care	0427 380 235
Kayla Szumer	kayla@couragetocare.com.au

BRISBANE

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www.brishc.com	
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www.beitorvshalom.org.au	
Chabad Brisbane	07 3843 6770
www.chabadbrisbane.com	
Chevra Kadisha	0406 169 511
www.bck.net.au	
Communal Centre Burbank	
Lewis	0419 705 417
Gan Gani Kindergarten & Preschool	07 3378 9233
NCJWA – Brisbane Section	ncjwbne@gmail.com
President Sheila Levine	www.ncjwa.org.au 0418 744 854
QLD Kosher Kitchen	0430 321 314 dvorahjaffe@bigpond.com
Rose's Army	07 3345 9509
Sinai College	07 3349 9088
www.sinaicollege.qld.edu.au	

GOLD COAST

NCJWA GOLD COAST	0412 377 488
President: Barbara Stewart-Kann OAM	ncjwagoldcoast@gmail.com
www.ncjwa.org.au	
Gold Coast Hebrew Congregation	07 5570 1851
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	mdaql@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

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 6:00pm Shabbat Morning 10am Oneg Shabbat 2nd Friday each month following services Seiudat Shabbat Last Shabbat each month following Torah Service
Gold Coast Hebrew Congregation	All enquiries call 07 5570 1851
Services	Friday Night Live Uplifting Service every Friday Night starting 5:30pm Shabbat Kiddish Following the service every Shabbat at 9am Kabbala and Jewish Mysticism Journey of the Soul, Monday evening at 7:30pm Talmud Classes Thursday evening at 7:30pm Talmud Torah Chader Sunday 9:30 - 11:30am

HAVE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE FEATURED IN
Communal News



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JUNE 2024 DEADLINE

MONDAY 20 MAY 2024

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When submitting photo by email make sure:

1. Set your camera to take high resolution shots (no less than 3 megapixels)
2. Email them as an attachment same size (high resolution) & not reduced for web (or screen) viewing or placed in word document

