



THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (JNF)

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN 2024

Is funding specific projects in Israel to help the families devastated by the atrocities of October 7

Together we can help rebuild their strength resilience and provide a pathway to healing.

JNF Providing rehabilitation, therapy and treatment of trauma – Healing Israel's South

Directly support the families of Israel's South with a pathway to recovery.

For **full details**, and how to join with JNF in showing your support and involvement – **see inside**



JNF | ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

2024

HEALING ISRAEL'S SOUTH

Dear JNF Friend and Supporter of Israel,

The JNF Annual Campaign 2024 will fund specific projects to help the families devastated by the atrocities of October 7 by helping to rebuild their strength resilience and provide a pathway to healing.

Healing Israel's South represents JNF's broad vision for the future and the JNF Annual campaign for 2024 will initiate the next vital stage of support for our communities devastated by October 7.

JNF's long-term commitment to the communities of Israel's South has been demonstrated through decades of direct support.

JNF has always understood the critical role of Israel's periphery, whether by providing protection on the borders or by contributing significantly to Israel's demographic and economic growth.

JNF feels that the families of Israel's South are truly our families and October 7 shook us to our very core.

As we have celebrated together for many years, so too we now deeply feel their pain.

JNF, thanks to our wonderful JNF community who donated during our Israel Emergency Response Campaign, sent to Israel 100% of over \$5m raised, directly to 28 communities and more than 15,000 families

As the situation in the South moves from emergency to immediacy, the JNF Annual Campaign will undertake to continue this same commitment to supporting specific projects that directly assist those in need.

JNF will fund projects that provide both the facilities and services needed to provide far-reaching support for those suffering from serious psychological and mental health challenges.

In addition, funds raised will also support communal infrastructure projects that help to recreate these communities, bigger, better, and more beautiful than ever, encouraging families to return home and attract a whole new generation of chalutzim (pioneers).

The approach of JNF remains simple:

To be led by those on the ground, who understand what is needed most and where it is needed.

- As each community navigates their own path home, they will work together with communal leaders, municipal councils, and other partner organisations towards rebuilding, helping return families to their homes.
- JNF works directly with trusted partners to cut through bureaucratic inefficiencies and avoid the duplication of critical services and resources.

This means that there is full transparency from donation to final destination, so donors will know exactly how and where their funds have been used.

- Maintaining close relationships in Israel will also ensure no duplication of precious donor funds, which are being received from wonderful supporters in Australia and around the world.

JNF understand this journey will be lengthy and challenging and will need our collective voice and action, to come together as one for the People of Israel.

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

Please call the JNF QLD Office on 3392 9830 or 1300 563 563 to donate by credit card and support this most important initiative - so easy

JNF Providing Rehabilitation, Therapy and Treatment of Trauma – Healing Israel's South Directly support the families of Israel's South with a pathway to recovery.

Donate now

go to the JNF Website using the link below:

<https://jnf.org.au/qld-healingisrael/>

A Tax Deductible receipt will immediately be issued to you.
All donations to the JNF Annual Campaign are fully Tax deductible

OR

Please note for Direct Deposit you can use:

BSB: 014 010

Account No: 3622 48089

Please put your name as a reference

If you want to ask anything about the JNF Annual Campaign or how to make a donation please feel free to contact the
JNF QLD PRESIDENT ON 0412578368

ISRAEL

Haifa transforms car park into underground hospital as possibility of northern Israel attack looms



The medical centre's car park was turned into a sprawling underground hospital. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

[ABC.NET.AU/NEWS](https://www.abc.net.au/news)

BY **MATTHEW DORAN, BASEL HINDELEH, GEOFF KEMP
AND SHIRA HADAS NAKAR IN HAIFA**

Three floors underground, out of the stifling heat, Professor Yael Shachor-Meyouhas wants to make one thing crystal clear.

"We didn't convert a parking lot into a fortified hospital," she explained.

"We built a fortified hospital, which we use as a parking lot."

It may seem like an odd point to make, but it reflects the nature of this hospital ward in

the northern Israeli city of Haifa. Professor Shachor-Meyouhas is in charge of a sprawling subterranean complex, stretching underneath the Rambam Medical Centre.

She proudly declares it's the biggest underground hospital in the world.

"During war, it can take us up to 72 hours to prepare," she says. But three days is too long in the current climate.



Before the underground level 3 was transformed it functioned as a normal car park. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)



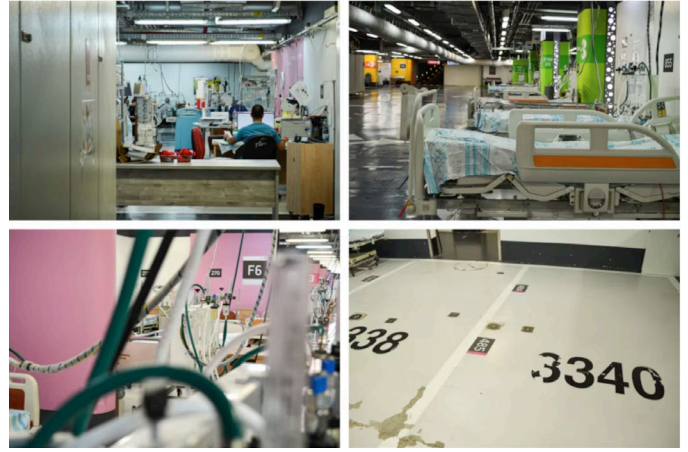
The ward is ready now, and has been since the beginning of the Israel Gaza war on October 7.

Hospital staff have been running drills, practising moving patients from Rambam's above ground complex into the underground safe haven — a process which can take six to seven hours.

Row upon row of 1,200 empty beds lie in wait for a feared influx where more than 2,200 patients can be treated. At full capacity the space can fit 5,000 people including all the staff and their families.



Professor Yael Shachor-Meyouhas, deputy director of the Rambam Hospital. (ABC News: Basel Hindeleh)



The underground hospital is ready to operate at a moment's notice. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

The ward is ready now, and has been since the beginning of the Israel Gaza war on October 7.

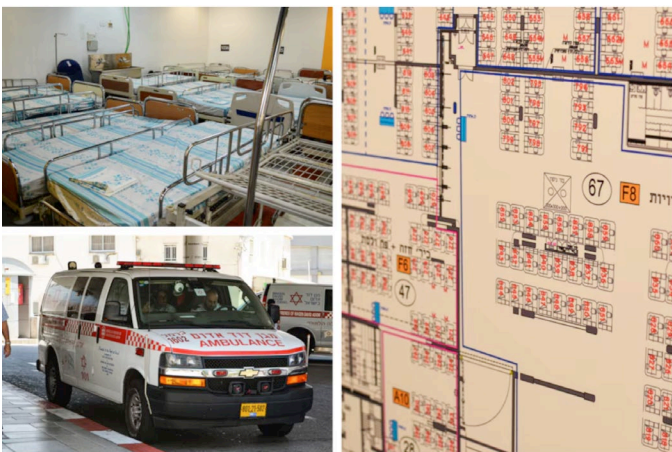
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Reminders of its life as a car park are still there — each space numbered twice — as a place to leave a vehicle and a number corresponding to a bed.

But it is much cleaner than a car park would be. Almost pristine.

The ward can take in all of the patients currently in the aboveground Rambam Hospital, and provide refuge for some from the city's other medical facilities — as well as treat anyone injured if the city comes under attack.



The underground levels are laid out like a hospital ward. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)



The Rambam Hospital has two nearby military bases. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

Why Haifa built this hospital

The idea for an underground hospital came in 2006, after Haifa came under attack during the second Lebanon war.

Professor Shachor-Meyouhas gave birth to her third son in the basement of an older Rambam building where existing underground surgical suites were turned into makeshift delivery rooms.



Professor Yael Shachor-Meyouhas gave birth in an earlier incarnation of the underground hospital. (Supplied)



Surgery rooms in the basement of an older building were turned into makeshift baby delivery areas during an emergency. (Supplied)

"I felt safe at that time, yes, because we were underground, but this fortified hospital is much more than just a safe place," she said.

It even has a dedicated control room with a large screen where doctors can at a glance see information about patients, beds and operating rooms, as well as blood, oxygen, water and fuel reserves.



A control room allows doctors to manage all aspects of patient care. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

The state of the art facility is a stark contrast to the conditions faced by medics in Gaza, with hospitals destroyed, damaged, or overrun and barely functional.

The horrors of war are not lost on Professor Shachor-Meyouhas, a practising paediatrician as well as part of the hospital's executive.

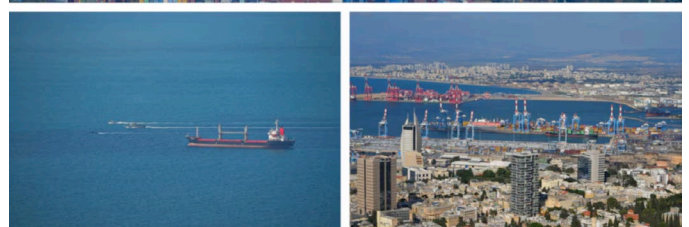
"I think that all doctors — our purpose is to treat patients," she said after a brief pause.

"We all hope that, of course, there will be peace, and we'll come to treat everyone."

A city-wide view from a bunker

Haifa may well be attacked again.

Hezbollah's leader Hassan Nasrallah said as much in a televised speech a couple of weeks ago, where he promised retribution for Israel's assassination of one of his senior commanders in Lebanon's capital, Beirut.



Haifa is a port city in northern Israel, with a history of storing chemicals. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

The picturesque port city of Haifa is only about 30 kilometres away from the Lebanese border and almost 300,000 people call it home — more than 1 million live in the broader region.

Haifa is 30km from the Lebanese border



ABC News

There have been plans for years to rehabilitate the heavy industrial site and the surrounding area, which has a long history of storing chemicals and fertilisers.

The government ordered the stores should be emptied, with Hezbollah releasing what they describe as footage from surveillance drones of key sites in Haifa.



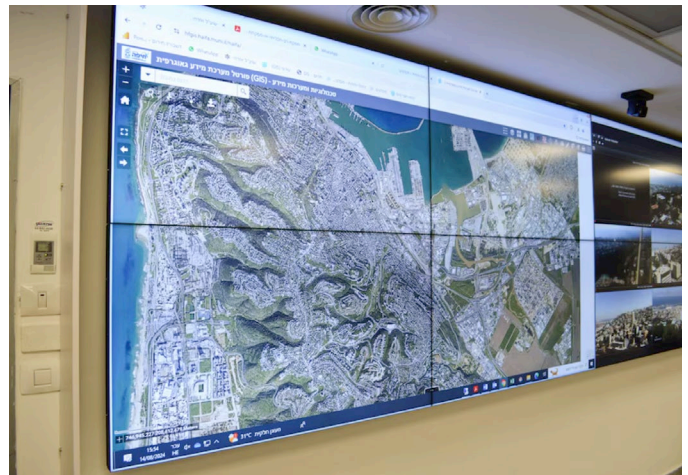
Yair Zilberman, the emergency director for Haifa's municipality. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

"Everything could be a target," Yair Zilberman, the emergency director for Haifa's municipality, told the ABC.

"In 2006, almost 100 rockets hit the ground in Haifa.

"And we had some casualties, of course — and we think that it will be the same, but more rockets this time."

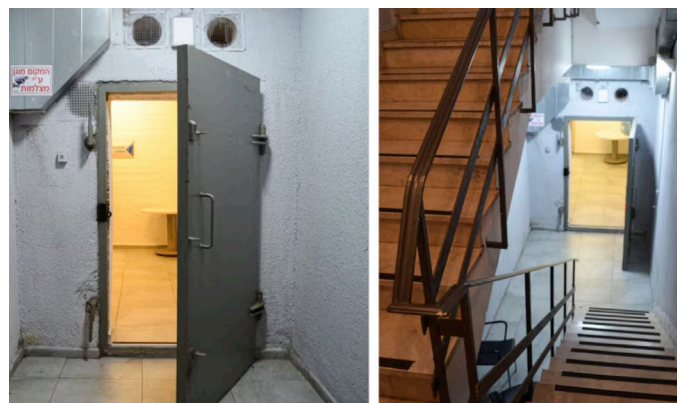
His team have been racing around the city, building more bomb shelters and improving those already scattered across Haifa — increasing capacity threefold.



The emergency centre monitors the entire city from an underground bunker. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

The refuges can now be remotely unlocked at the push of a button from the Haifa Municipality's own underground bunker, across town from the hospital.

"We are ready, always — if I have two months more [to prepare], I could be more ready," he quipped.



The municipality's underground coordination bunker is protected by several thick metal doors. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

Every day the council staff meet in a war room, inside the warren-like bomb shelter behind thick metal doors.

Joining them are the Israeli Defense Force, the local police and fire brigade, port and airport authorities and other essential services to coordinate their work, with live camera feeds of the Haifa metro area beamed into their control centre.

"Everyone is worried, even me — however, someone needs to be relaxed and to run the situation," Mr Zilberman said.



Life in Haifa carries on as normal. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

"Truth is, until this last war started, we never thought of leaving," Mr Feigin said.

"We have three children here, we have nine grandchildren here, we're here.

"But in the last few months, if the government is going to keep changing the rules and becoming less democratic and a more autocratic regime, I don't think there's a great future."

He said people living in the area should not have to "get used" to living with the threat

'There's no reason why wars should be the norm'

Retired Australian-Israeli university professor Paul Feigin lives in an apartment building in the leafy suburb of Ahuza.

Originally from Melbourne, via the Australian National University in Canberra, he has lived in Haifa with his wife for 48 years.

They have raised three daughters and welcomed nine grandchildren — but despite loving Haifa, he is starting to feel like completing the fifth decade in the city could be a stretch.



of war, suggesting the Israeli government should change tack.

"I think that the politicians should work out a way to look into the future a little further than their noses and their immediate needs," he said.

"And we're in a situation where this could be a wonderful place to live.

"There's no reason why wars should be the norm."



Paul Feigin and his wife have lived in Haifa for 48 years, and never before until now have they thought of leaving. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

But he acknowledges the reality of the situation.

"It worries us to the extent that when we moved to this apartment, we made sure that it had a safe room, and now, when the war started 10 months ago, we actually made sure that we had supplies and water in there.

"So we're being careful but it hasn't really affected our day to day lives. We're really still travelling and still going to my work."

He says while most people are trying to keep up a normal life things feel a bit different.

"[There's] less people walking on the beach the last few months than usual, and there's less traffic around too. So I think there are, there are people who are holding back, who are not doing everything."

'They are not running away'

Back in the Haifa Municipality bunker, a team of staff are at work answering phone calls from concerned residents.

"There's no panic, but people are concerned," Tal Sabino, the call centre's manager said.

"They call us to get information about what they need to do, where do they need to go in case of alarm, what kind of equipment do they need, and we give them all the information."

The phones are not ringing off the hook just yet, but the team are expecting that to change if the situation deteriorates.

Mattresses are piled up, in readiness for pulling all-night shifts.

The team of 15 staff will swell to more than 100, he said.

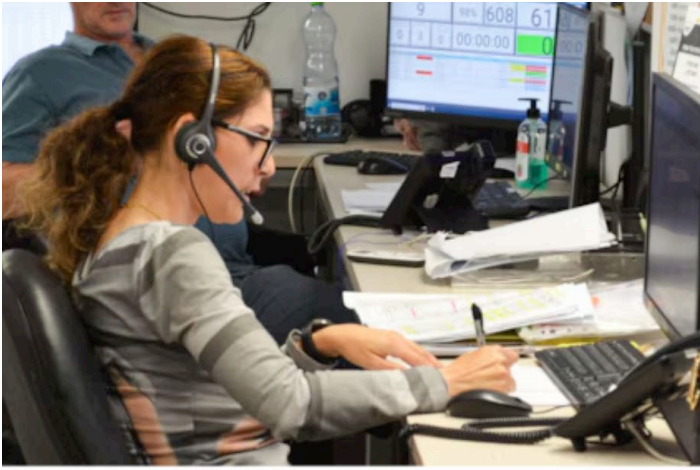
"We do not underestimate the threat, that's why we're preparing constantly," Mr Sabino said.

"But at the same time, we're determined.

"The people here, they call this place home, they are not running away."



Tal Sabino and his team are there to answer the city's concerned calls. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)



The call centre is ready to expand operations should an emergency take place. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)



The port city of Haifa is picturesque but sits in a dangerous location. (ABC News: Matthew Doran)

RELIGION

Adult women line up for the bat mitzvah experience they missed



Participants in the Great Synagogue's Adult Bat Mitzvah program in 2023 (Image: Caroline Lewis).

THE JEWISH INDEPENDENT

BY **PAULA TOWERS**

Paula Towers is a writer and editor, and has also worked as a political speechwriter and researcher. Currently, Paula is a presenter and producer on the Arts Thursday show at Sydney's Eastside Radio as well as a freelance writer for print publications and a travel web site.

The Great Synagogue's innovative program is now available for women across the broader Sydney community.

The popular bat mitzvah program for adults run by the Great Synagogue is now being offered across the Sydney community. ***"Embracing Bat Mitzvah: Sisterhood and Tradition"***, for adults who missed the opportunity when younger, is attracting women across generations and religious affiliations, and is now open to non-members.

Specifically designed for adult women, the 12-week program, which starts on September 1, features a range of experienced educators offering Sunday morning classes covering topics such as spirituality, mitzvahs, prophetesses and famous Jewish women, culminating with the group's bat mitzvah in December.

"Call me selfish, but I'd never had a bat mitzvah and I really wanted to have one."
Caroline Lewis

Coinciding with The Great Synagogue's 'Women Of Worth' (WOW) Weekend in 2019, and with the approval and encouragement of Chief Minister Rabbi Ben Elton, the initiative was launched by the congregation's then Vice President Caroline Lewis.

"Call me selfish, but I'd never had a bat mitzvah and I really wanted to have one," Lewis told The Jewish Independent.

"I wanted to know the feeling of walking up on to the bimah, surrounded by friends and family, and to experience the role of a woman in a Shule service."

It didn't take long to fill the spots when the program was launched as ***"12 Over 12"*** in 2019, Lewis said, as many women had been overlooked for their bat mitzvah.

"When they were 12 it wasn't deemed fashionable for girls to have a bat mitzvah, or it was simply seen as an opportunity only for a boy's role. These 12 women wanted to find a way to experience it."

Designing the format required an educator. Jacki Gluck facilitated a program that took place every Sunday over six weeks.

"Some of my '12 over 12' peers also wanted to honour their parents or loved ones, many lost in the Holocaust," says Lewis, "while others in the group, including two women who had completed conversions to Judaism, saw a bat mitzvah as their chance to engage in a deeply meaningful religious experience."



Caroline Lewis with her mother Alice Hubbers (Image: Caroline Lewis).

For Lewis, the experience drew on her mother, Alice Hubbers, who was on the Kindertransport at age 13. In 1938 Hubbers witnessed Hitler enter Vienna, and later Kristallnacht, before escaping the Nazi invasion.

"She rarely celebrated birthdays, and a bat mitzvah was definitely not on the cards. When I thought about what she was doing at 12, I wanted to stand up there for her, and for all the women during that era who weren't able to celebrate their childhood – let alone participate in a milestone like this."

Inspired by her daughter's actions, Hubbers took the opportunity to celebrate her own bat mitzvah with the following cohort.

However, as the program went into hiatus during lockdowns, the next intake was for the December 2023 ceremony. Hubbers was 98 by then, the most senior of any group. She turns 100 in January.

"It was a revelation; I realised I was being offered the opportunity to fill a gap in my life." Diane Alperstein

Hubbers says the reason she wanted to have one was *"to catch up on doing more things that connect me with my Jewish religion and heritage"*.

The women found many reasons for marking their bat mitzvahs. *"12 over 12 sounded so cool!"* enthused Diane Alperstein, another member of the 2023 who was in her seventies when she participated. "It was a revelation; I realised I was being offered the opportunity to fill a gap in my life, strongly connected to my Jewish heritage. The experience was, I'm not exaggerating when I say, electric.

"On the first day that we met, everyone was beaming; anticipation and eagerness at the learning before us. It was a powerful and emotional experience... [that] we could relate to more deeply as adults."

This experience changed significantly following October 7. *"It gave us a platform to discuss the bravery of the Israeli women. We could also relate this to the significance of our role in the continuing survival of the Jewish people."*



Jacki Gluck

"I could see what impact [of the bar mitzvah ceremony] had on my daughter and granddaughters – in fact one of my grandchildren thinks you should only have your bat mitzvah when you're over 70!

"It was an incredible experience ... I feel better for it! Somehow, I feel more Jewish than I did before! I'm very happy I did it."

This year's program is being run by the Chair of Great Women, Sharon Schach. *"The women who do this class become very close, it [becomes] a sisterhood. They're sharing something very, very special,"* Schach says.

"One person who registered asked me: 'I don't know any Hebrew – can I still do this?' Absolutely. Of course! All the classes are conducted in English, so knowledge of Hebrew is not a requirement."

"Another asked: 'I'm not a shule-goer, I'm not religious but I still want to do it.' Schach assured her, stating: 'That's fine. We're not making you do anything. Not become religious nor [Shabbat] observant. Not requiring that you eat Kosher food.'

"[The program aims] to help you learn about your Jewish background; to embrace you into the Jewish community in whatever format you want."

Alperstein concludes: *"It comes with the benefit of making friends, in your shule or wider community. Enrolling in the bar mitzvah program will exceed your expectations."*



Diane Alperstein

POINT OF VIEW

Time for Palestinians to stop fetishising victimhood stories



TIMES OF ISRAEL

BY JAN SHURE

Jan's blogs and can be found on <https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/author/jan-shure/> Jan Shure is now a contributor to SHALOM MAGAZINE with her Blogs which are accessed through the Times of Israel. Jan held senior editorial roles at the Jewish Chronicle for three decades and previously served as deputy editor of the Jewish Observer. She is an author and freelance writer and wrote regularly for the Huffington Post. We welcome Jan to our pages and look forward to reading her views about Israel the Middle East and Judaism.

There is an excellent YouTube video of an interview with the coruscatingly brilliant Yuval Noah Harari in which he asserts his belief that wars and conflicts – including, he says, the conflict currently “tearing apart” his region – are not about land or territory but about “stories”.

The Israeli historian and philosopher who took the world by storm with his 2011 book, “Sapiens,” notes that “objectively” there is “no shortage of land” between “the Mediterranean and the Jordan River” and also that Russia’s invasion of Ukraine was not due to Russia suffering “any shortage of territory.” Thus, asserts Harari, wars happen because of “the stories people tell themselves;” people fight over “the stories in their minds.”

Personally, I think Harari has chosen to brush aside the appeal of nationalism and to ignore the “conquerors” from the Greeks, Romans, Mongols and Ottomans to Adolf Hitler, whose declared *casus belli* was *lebensraum* (living space). But I felt that he may have a point about the toxicity of “stories” and their impact—particularly in the Israel-Palestine conflict – after reading an interview given by Bella, one of the two Hadid supermodel sisters. Like sister Gigi, Bella is invariably styled as “Palestinian.” Both are vocal supporters of Palestinians and Gigi has made some strikingly anti-Israel comments.

In the interview, with online magazine The Cut, Bella – who was recently embroiled in a row over an Adidas

sneaker advertisement – spoke about her family’s “personal history” of “displacement” from Palestine. The phrase “personal history” suggested Prof Harari’s thesis has validity, since her father who describes himself as “a Palestinian refugee” is the billionaire, Bel Air real-estate developer Mohamed Hadid.

As is clear from an interview he gave to another US magazine, he was in a refugee camp in Syria for a very brief period before spending his childhood in – one assumes from his comments, safety and relative comfort – in homes in Syria, Lebanon and Tunisia, before arriving in 1964 in the USA where he built his mega-successful business.

So, “refugee” is a tad disingenuous even if technically true according to, say, UNRWA. I am not denying Mr Hadid the right to claim to be “a refugee” nor saying he should not perceive himself as “a refugee” if he wishes to do so, nor am I disputing that his family had roots in Palestine – as, of course do many Jews, whose roots often go much deeper. Nor am I even disputing his right to claim that his family did not leave Palestine voluntarily. But I am suggesting that the fetishising of that aspect of his early life and the overt “yearning” to “return” gives credence to Prof Harari’s thesis in the context of the Israel-Palestine conflict because irrespective of how much truth there is in that version, it is the story Mr Hadid has been told; it is the story he tells himself and it is also the story his

American-born daughter tells herself, tells interviewers and tells the whole world.

It is the story millions of Palestinians – regardless of wealth, geographical location or the actual circumstances of their departure – tell themselves. And, of course, tell a receptive world because Palestinians deploy their “refugee” status and their “stories” in a way that is designed to continue to fuel a grievance. And the constant repetition has led to that grievance growing and solidifying into something toxic – in roughly the same way that grit in an oyster ultimately grows into a pearl.

While I understand the pain of “displacement” – how could a Jew whose ancestors suffered “displacement” in almost every generation, not understand it – I see only one reason for the Palestinians to collectively fetishise and nurture their “story” of “displacement” across so many generations. And that is to “justify” terrorism (or so-called resistance). And, of course, to allow other power-blocs and nations to weaponise it and exploit it on their behalf (and not, of course for the benefit of the Palestinian people, but in pursuit of their own geopolitical ambitions).

And we know there is another way, because the 900,000 Jews who were also “displaced” or “expelled” by Arab countries in 1948 – including between 17,000 and 40,000 made refugees from Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem – simply got on with their lives without nurturing their sorrow or fetishising the pain they felt at being displaced, stripped of their wealth or in some cases seeing their families brutally butchered.

Perhaps we should also note that the “pain” for the Palestinian Arabs could have been mitigated – or avoided altogether – by staying in the new state

of Israel in 1948 (as 150,000 Palestinian Arabs did in defiance of their leaders), or settling in one of the 20-plus Islamic states in the region. But no, unlike the Jews from Arab lands, the Palestinians carried on politicising and amplifying their “grief” by telling mournful (and possibly exaggerated) stories of “expulsions” to embellish a narrative of lies, half-truths and myths. And whether they are wealthy citizens of other countries or the Palestinians who stayed in Gaza or the West Bank, their “stories” are used to incite and radicalise; to help recruit suicide bombers and raise funds to underwrite terrorism.

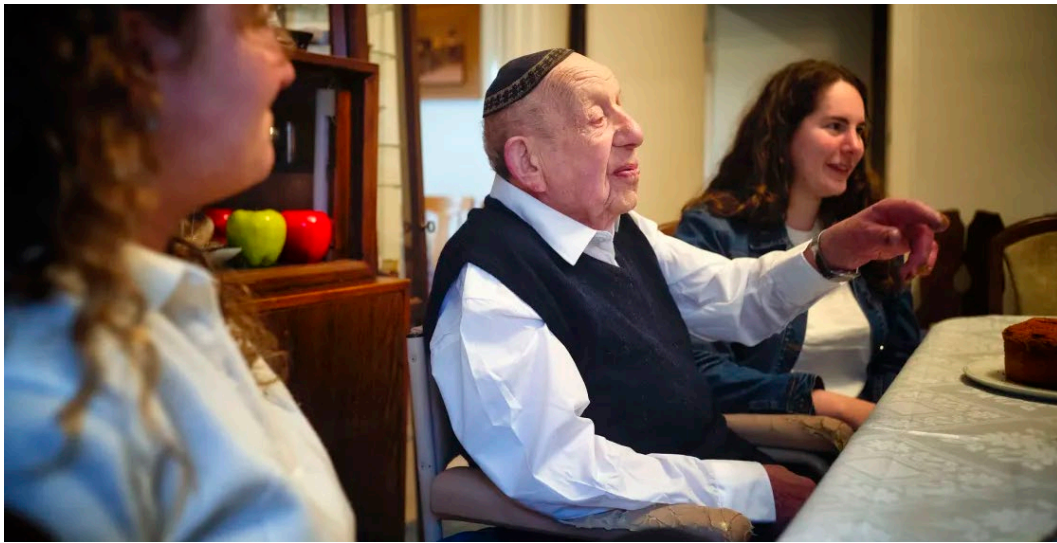
Undeniably, we Jews tell ourselves “stories” too, but the key points of the Jewish narrative are rooted in objective reality. As well as ancient sources which indicate a Jewish presence in this land from Bible times onward (cf Old and New Testaments, the Quran and archaeological finds), land records, population censuses, birth certificates, passports and multiple authoritative contemporaneous sources prove a continuous Jewish presence in the ancestral Jewish homeland. Also, our “stories” are not used to incite, radicalise, recruit suicide bombers or fund terror

The Palestinians, however, continue to tell themselves (and their children and grandchildren) “stories” (despite the often tenuous link the stories have to reality) while those who exploit and weaponise their “pain” keep on exploiting and weaponising it.

So if – as the eminent “Sapiens” author believes – people really do go to war over the “stories they tell themselves” perhaps it is time for sentient, well-meaning Palestinians to stop telling “stories” that will be used to justify murder and terrorism, to fuel Jew-hate and ultimately to harm their own people.

HOLOCAUST

‘My brother saved my life’: 104-year-old Warsaw Ghetto survivor remembers his hero



Full of life: Berysz Aurbach flanked by granddaughters Tali (left) and Dani Jackson at his 104th birthday party.

THE AGE

BY CAROLYN WEBB

When you turn 104, it makes sense to have a big birthday party.

Berysz Aurbach, of Caulfield, had a suitably large black forest cake with *“Happy 104th Birthday”* inscribed on it in Hebrew.

Family and friends visited all day on Sunday. There were enough sponge cakes, biscuits and pastries to shock a cardiologist.

Guests toasted Aurbach, whose actual birthday was Saturday, with whisky and said *“l’chaim”* (to life). There was much to be thankful for: Aurbach has three children, four grandchildren and a lovely home.



Aurbach says his brother Mordechai (pictured) was a hero who saved his life.

More than 80 years ago, he survived the Warsaw Ghetto, in Nazi-occupied Poland. Some 90,000 Jews in the ghetto died of starvation and disease. More than 300,000 were shot or killed in extermination camps.

Thousands more died in the ghetto uprising of April 1943, in which Nazis burnt and blew up buildings.

Now, as always, Aurbach thinks of his late brother, Mordechai, who he says saved his life, many times.

Their father, oldest brother Leibl, a sister-in-law and her two children died during the uprising. Aurbach, Mordechai and Mordechai’s girlfriend watched the fires from an apartment outside the ghetto.



Aurbach’s birthday cake inscribed with *“Happy 104th Birthday”* in Hebrew.

“You must understand, I felt terrible,” he said. *“I still see the fire, in my eyes.”* Shortly before the ghetto uprising, Mordechai, part of the anti-Nazi underground resistance movement, gave Aurbach a fake ID and

organised a Polish police uniform, which Aurbach wore to slip out of the ghetto, unnoticed.

Aurbach spent the rest of the war in safe houses run by the underground.

But Mordechai and his girlfriend, who had been posing as gentiles, were dobbed in to the Gestapo. Mordechai was shot dead and his girlfriend was shot in the leg and later died.

“Mordechai saved my life. Of course, he is my hero,” Aurbach says.

If not for Mordechai, ***“either one or the other, I would have burned in the [ghetto] fire or burned in the ovens [in concentration camps].”***

“Of course, I often think of him now. For much of my life, I thought of him, wherever I was.”

In the ghetto, Aurbach, whose mother had died of illness when he was a baby, survived round-ups of Jews, in which Nazis chose those to be deported to camps and those allowed to stay.

If someone strayed out of formation or the guards didn't like their face, or for fun, they would ***“shoot a few people”***. While hiding in Warsaw and elsewhere after the ghetto, Aurbach was in constant fear.



Believed to be a passport photo of a young Berysz Aurbach on entry to Australia in 1947.

“If the Germans had found me, they would have shot me on the spot. Like my brother.”

Just one sibling, Esther, out of the five he grew up with in Biala Podlaska, eastern Poland, survived the Holocaust.

Aurbach migrated to Melbourne in 1947 and ran a successful knitting business. In 1955, he met his wife, Tova, in Israel. Tova died of cancer 12 years ago.

Relatives say Aurbach is resilient and loves life. He goes to synagogue, reads books and goes shopping.

“He believes himself to be much younger than 104,” says granddaughter Dani Jackson.

His faith is important.

“You need to hold on to something. You can't be empty altogether,”

Aurbach says.



Aurbach keeps memories of brother Mordechai close.

JNF (Jewish National Fund) is delighted to announce that nominations are now open for this year's annual **B'nai B'rith & JNF Youth and Young Adult Jewish Changemaker Awards**, aimed at recognising and celebrating our community's young activists.

Since October 7, there has been a substantial increase in youth & young adults who have been instrumental in advocating for Israel and our community that are deserving of acknowledgement.

Do you know or have a young professional or volunteer within your organisation that is worthy of being recognised as part of Australia's next "Top 36 Under 36" If so, JNF encourages you to nominate them in one of 3 categories:

- The Joshua Levi Young Professional Award (\$5000 prize)
- The Young Adult Volunteer Award (\$3000 prize)
- The Youth Volunteer Award (\$1500 prize)

Please nominate at least 2 volunteers and or outstanding employees.

**Nominations close Friday
6 September 2024**

Our aim is to encourage the next generation of leaders to continue their advocacy and entrepreneurship.

This year to streamline communications, JNF is inviting a representative from each organisation join our WhatsApp group.

The "Top 36 Under 36" together with the winners of each category will be announced in the Australian Jewish News on 13 December 2024.

For further information and to **NOMINATE NOW** follow this link: <https://www.australianjewishnews.com/changemakers/>

**JEWISH CHANGEMAKER
AWARDS 2024**

**Who will be our next
36 UNDER 36 ?**

**Nominate a
Changemaker
NOW!**

NOMINATE HERE

*Honouring young people making a
difference in our community.*

www.australianjewishnews.com/changemakers

**NOMINATIONS
CLOSE
6 September**

THE Australian Jewish News



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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DEAR JNF SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS OF ISRAEL

Thank you for supporting the people and land of Israel

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 Hamas 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

Len Mahemoff OAM
Planned Giving Consultant
JNF Australia

A pledge to
your homeland,
your people –
and your family



safewill.com/jnf

If you would like to create your Will online, you may use this QR code to get started



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.

Throughout July and August, our team have shared our classroom program with some large student groups at schools in Brisbane, Ipswich, and the Gold and Sunshine Coasts:



All Hallows' School

Year 10
40 students



West Moreton Anglican College

Year 10
140 students



Coomera Anglican College

Year 6
110 students



Matthew Flinders Anglican College

Year 9
150 students



St Michael's College, Merrimac

Year 10
125 students



St Michael's College student responses when asked how they can be Upstanders in their community

During Workshop Facilitations at St Michael's College Merrimac, students wrote thoughtful responses when prompted to consider how they can be Upstanders in their communities:

Students have been loving the 'I AM AN UPSTANDER' stickers they receive from our team at the end of the Facilitations, placing them on their folders, books and laptops. The stickers then become a great talking point with friends and family, further spreading the Courage to Care "Upstander" message in the community:

I AM AN UPSTANDER" stickers at Matthew Flinders Anglican College.



VOLUNTEER WITH US



**AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF
YOUNG QUEENSLANDERS**

JOIN US NOW WWW.COURAGETOCARE.ORG.AU/QLD



Join our team!

Could you be a Presenter, a Facilitator, or a Storyteller? We welcome volunteers from all walks of life with a passion to make a positive difference.

Along with ongoing training, volunteers have the opportunity to work with a team of dedicated, skilled and passionate people and build on personal strengths – while developing new professional skills and friendships.

Contact us today for more information:
queensland@couragetocare.com.au
www.couragetocare.org.au/qld

See our SEEK Volunteer ad for more
information about joining our
awesome team:

[https://www.volunteer.com.au/
volunteering/214097/Workshop-
Facilitator-and-Presenter](https://www.volunteer.com.au/volunteering/214097/Workshop-Facilitator-and-Presenter)



Jewish Help in Need Society of Queensland

The Society is a registered not-for-profit charity, established in 1968, and provides financial assistance in the form of grants or no-interest loans to deserving Jewish residents in Queensland in accordance with the terms of its Constitution.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 24 September, 2024

At 7.30 pm

Agenda:

Welcome/Present/Apologies

Minutes of 2023 AGM

Business from 2023 AGM

Correspondence

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Election of Officers

(President, Directors (2), Treasurer and Secretary)

Appointment of Auditor

General Business

Details of the location of the meeting, membership applications, nomination forms and proxy/voting forms are available **on request** from the Secretary.

SECRETARY:

Carolyn Goldsmith | 0407145739 | cfgold@bigpond.net.au



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
pgldsmth@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.





Did you know we have Facebook and Instagram pages?

Did you know LAVA Print & Design has Facebook and Instagram accounts? We regularly post our latest sales, promotions and new products and services onto these pages to keep you in the loop.

We invite you to Like and Follow our Facebook and Instagram pages so you won't miss any sweet updates.

We have included a link to the corresponding platform, click below and get to our profile immediately! **Click** or **scan** on the icon of each platform to access and like.



We have updated our website and encourage you to have a look at our products and services that we offer. Lava Print & Design is strongly committed to finding solutions for your business print and marketing needs. Print marketing is fast becoming a popular trend as the digital space has become so over crowded. Feel free to call us to discuss how we can help you better communicate through print.

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THOSE IN NEED

79 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.**

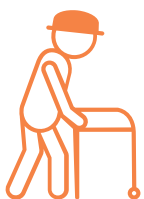


JCareQld is a charitable association that provides care to the **Queensland Jewish Community**

We can assist



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



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



Email: jcareqld@gmail.com

HELPLINE: 1300 133 660



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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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For a confidential discussion please contact:

Romy Dinte
Planned Giving Manager
P 02 9386 9559 E romy@jnf.org.au



Managing Editor
David Jacobs

Consulting Editor
Lorraine Jacobs

Designer
Camila Sister
camilasisterdesign.com

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To Contact Us

Email
shalomjnf@westnet.com.au

Mobile
0412 578 368

Website

shalommagazine.com.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
Ph 3356 4277

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ARI HEBER COMMUNITY LIAISON

PHONE: 0423 194 737

PO BOX 1202 STAFFORD CITY OLD 4053

ARI@QJCS.ORG.AU • WWW.QJCS.ORG.AU



MISHKAN ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

2 Moxon Road Burbank, QLD 4156

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@szcqlld.org	www.szcqlld.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

Brisbane Hebrew Congregation	07 3705 0312
www.brishc.com	
Beit Or v'Shalom	0404 034 060
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	mdaqlld@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

shalomjnf@westnet.com.au

OCTOBER 2024 DEADLINE TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2024

Submission, letters and articles may be edited for publication.
COPY MUST BE PROOFED & PREFERRED BY EMAIL

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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

