

‘Es Brent’ – Terror in the House of Prayer

The Council of Christians and Jews WA held their Kristallnacht commemoration, its 84th anniversary, at Perth Hebrew Congregation Synagogue on Sunday 6 November.

The liturgy framed the occasional address delivered by Judith Lawrence, Operations Manager, Holocaust Institute of WA – her presentation taking the Yiddish song *Es Brent* as its theme (paraphrased: “do not stand by, watching the flames”). Enhancing the call to remember what this night augured and to resolve to act against such, were ‘cellist James Maley, the Carmel Choir and John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School students.

Rabbi Dan Lieberman welcomed all present. James Maley and accompanist David Hicks set a meditative tone with an excerpt from Bloch’s evocative *Prayer*, and JSRACS students read eyewitness testimonies to Kristallnacht.

Judith Lawrence delivered her address, a visual presentation, with clarity and strength. “How does one destabilise the Jews? By destroying their house of prayer.” Pointing to critical moments of deteriorating conditions for Jews under the strengthening Nazi regime, Judith played a recording of Ken Arkwright OAM z”l, Shoah survivor, long-time CCJWA member and author of *Beyond Survival*. In it, Ken recalled events of Kristallnacht that affected him: the burning of the Breslau Synagogue (which had functioned as the heart of his community, “a refuge”), and the deaths of its Rabbi, Dr Reinhold Lewin, his wife, and their son Ulli, Ken’s school friend. The recording was especially moving with Ken Arkwright’s recent passing, and Judith, his wife, in attendance.

Judith noted that we should not focus on a particular time or circumstance as leading to the Shoah, but, rather, the failure to be on guard against injustices, no matter how small. We should not think that it cannot happen again, or that it cannot happen here in Australia.



Sol Majteles lights the First Memorial Candle



Rev Susy Thomas lights the Second Memorial Candle



Ari Jacobson and Piper Gage light the Candle of Hope.

As the Memorial candles were being lit, James Maley played a haunting excerpt from Ravel’s *Kaddish*. As a symbol of reconciliation, Ari Jacobson (Carmel School) and Piper Gage (JSRACS) lit a Candle of Hope in duet. Rabbi Kim Ettlinger of Temple David Congregation then recited the *Kaddish*.

Perhaps most compelling was Carmel students’ heartfelt rendition of *Ani ma’amin*, *Esa enai*, and *Oseh Shalom* (accompanied by Michelle Galanti). With the JSRACS students, they carry the past forward, guarding against forgetfulness, and have the potential to inspire future move to action.

Judith Schneider
Vice-Chairperson, CCJWA Inc.



David Hicks and James Maley



Carmel Choir. Photos Shelley Rush



Prof Yaacov Nahmias
Founder and Chief Scientific Officer at
Future Meat Technologies

will discuss

**Cultured Meat
and its impact on
Food, Nutrition and Climate**

on
Thursday 1 December
7.30am for a 7.45am start until 9.00am
Light breakfast will be served (kosher-friendly)


Venue to be advised
Bookings essential through Humanitix




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Australian Friends
of The Hebrew
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progress



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**HOLOCAUST
INSTITUTE
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**
Since 1990

Notice of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of members of the HOLOCAUST INSTITUTE of WA Inc. will be held:

**on Monday 19 December 2022, at 10am
at The Perth Hebrew Congregation, 28 Freedman Road, Menora**

The business of the meeting is as follows:

- To receive the reports and financial statements of the Institute
- To elect the following office bearers:
–President
–Five (5) Ordinary members
- General Business

Nominations are called for the following Board positions:
President - to be elected for a two (2) year term. Ordinary Board Members - Five (5) positions are available, each to be elected for a One (1) year term.

Nominations must be in writing and be received by the Secretary (info@hiwa.org.au) not less than 14 days before the annual general meeting, namely 5 December 2022.

By order of the Board

VOLUNTEER AT MAURICE ZEFFERT

We are desperately looking for a volunteer bus driver

- You will drive our 8-seater HiAce bus – no special licence required.
- We would really appreciate your time once a week or once a fortnight.
- Our excursions will only take up 2-3 hours of your time.
- You will make a BIG difference to the lives of our residents.



We would also love to hear from you if you have a talent you would like to share with our residents, or you can help with our current activities.

Our activities include craft, cooking, drawing, dance, music, games, preparing for Shabbat, discussions, reading to residents.

Our residents have wonderful stories to tell and enjoy talking about current affairs. If you are a good listener or love a good chat, we would welcome you.



MAURICE ZEFFERT
Trusted Jewish Aged Care

Contact Shirley Pikoos
Cultural Coordinator – 0429 965 883