



Women's International
Zionist Organization
Queensland

WIZO

QUEENSLAND

Doing what matters

NEWSLETTER

May 2026

We are not ok.



Help them rebuild their lives

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CHECKOUT THE NEW WIZO QUEENSLAND WEBSITE!

<https://www.wizoqueensland.org>

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Shalom Chaverot and Chaverim

Over the past two months we have continued with our work promoting WIZO Queensland and our Israel Project - *Therapeutic Care for Women and Children* experiencing trauma due to the ongoing war.

During this time, we have created and published our WIZO QLD Website! Thanks to Luana Goriss and Susan Segal.

We've had our first screening in Brisbane of the brilliant HIDDEN LIGHT Documentary. Luana gave an introduction and at the end addressed question time. We have five more bookings for screenings covering Brisbane, Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast.

The Yom Ha'Atzmaut event went very well with new memberships, the sale of Judaica items, fragrances from Jerusalem and our extremely popular glassware. We now have a new glassware and porcelain painter with incredible artistic talents.

On an extremely sad note, on 28 April we farewelled Frank Charles, a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and close friend. Frank walked together with his wife and WIZO QLD Past President, Evelyn - they were an incredible duo. Frank tirelessly gave of himself with every WIZO Function. His culinary skills ranged from Latkes, open sandwiches and much more. Frank was the first *Mitzo* member in Queensland (our men members) and was very proud of that.



Our gift to Frank is to place his name on a brick on 'The Road of Hope' in Israel at the Ahuzat Yeladim school, which provides education, therapy and rehabilitation for at-risk youth. This unique path leads from the entrance at *Ahuzat Yeladim* in Haifa and continues to wind its way through the school.

Please join family and friends in honouring this outstanding man.

Sylvia Lipski

President WIZO Queensland

WIZO QUEENSLAND'S 2026 PROJECT



Two years and five months from the fateful October 7 massacre, most in Israel are still rebuilding their lives, materially and psychologically.

We would like to invite you to join us in our new project: *Therapeutic Aid for Women and Children Affected by the War in Israel*. This initiative provides immediate therapeutic

assistance to women and children facing acute vulnerability and crisis.

The prolonged reality of war has deeply affected daily life on the home front. For many women, particularly in families of reservists, the burden has been significant and ongoing. Mothers of young children have carried the full responsibility of caregiving, household management, and emotional stability, while coping with continued concern for partners serving in reserve duty. Over time, this has led to cumulative exhaustion, heightened stress, and emotional overload.

Millions of Israelis run to bomb shelters almost daily, sometimes several times a day, dodging missile, rocket, and drone attacks and confined to crowded underground spaces for hours on end. These relentless assaults from Iran and its allies have completely upended daily life, leaving the most vulnerable — including children, seniors, and Israelis with disabilities — traumatized and terrified.

The work of WIZO is not to just deal with the current needs of war-torn Israelis, but to be ready for what is to come. This is the legacy of WIZO - established in Israel in 1920, before the Holocaust and before the rebirth of the Jewish state. The words of the prophets were known - a great return to our land was imminent, as was a great backlash from those who wished to destroy us. WIZO was there in 1948 and we are there now.

We encourage all to stand with us in facilitating our current project and also for what is to come.

You can donate to our Project through the link below, or simply direct transfer to our WIZO QLD bank account (see page 11). Just put 'Project' with your name.

Project donate: <https://square.link/u/LjX95gzB?src=sheet>

The Months of May and June

Shavuot

The most momentous event in history took place on Shabbat, the sixth day of the month of Sivan, in the year 1313 BCE). On that day, the entire people of Israel — more than 2 million men, women and children, as well as the souls of all future generations of Jews — gathered at the foot of Mount Sinai to receive the Torah from God. Exodus 19:16-20.

Why do we read Megillat Ruth on Shavuot. Because a young Moabite widow called Ruth journeyed to Israel with her Jewish mother-in-law. But she did not go alone – her sister-in-law, Orpah, also went with them.

Ruth's famous words to Naomi: "Don't ask me to leave you, or to return from following you; for where you go, I shall go and where you live, I shall live; your people shall be my people and thy God my God," established Jewish history for all time. However, Orpah (whose name means 'the back of the neck'), decided to go back to Moab and her gods.

The future of these two women is certainly impacting: Ruth became the great grandmother of King David. Orpah became the grandmother of Goliath.

The Reunification of Jerusalem during the Six Day War

On June 7, 1967, IDF paratroopers advanced through the Old City toward the Temple Mount and the Western Wall, bringing Jerusalem's holiest site under Jewish control for the first time in 2000 years. There are sound recordings of the scene, as the commander of the brigade, Lt. General Mordechai Gur, approaches the Old City and announces to his company commanders: "We're sitting right now on the ridge and we're seeing the Old City. Shortly we're going to go into the Old City of Jerusalem, that all generations have dreamed about. We will be the first to enter the Old City..." and shortly afterwards, "The Temple Mount is in our hands! I repeat, the Temple Mount is in our hands!" General Rabbi Shlomo Goren, chief chaplain of the IDF, sounded the Shofar at the Western Wall to signify its liberation.



Recent Events

Brisbane

Screening of HIDDEN LIGHT Documentary

A great turnout for the extremely informative documentary on the stolen treasures of the Second Temple. Produced by Rabbi Yoel Gold.

Contact WIZO to book or attend a screening:
wizoqueensland@gmail.com

Gold Coast: Luana 0466548624

Brisbane and Sunshine Coast: Christine 0432518153



Yom Ha'Atzmaut

Celebrating 28 years of Israel's Independence



The Worldwide Impact of Israel's Rebirth

David Parsons, Vice President, International Christian Embassy Jerusalem

When considering Israel's re-emergence as a nation in 1948, it must first be remembered that this did not happen in a vacuum. The world did not just wake up one day and find the Jewish state on its doorstep. Rather, Israel's national rebirth occurred within a certain historic context, and that context is forever linked to the Holocaust. The miracle of restored Jewish sovereignty in Eretz Israel is only magnified when we take into account that it took place just three years after the horrific depths of the Nazi genocide against the Jews were exposed. The Holocaust marked the nadir of the Jewish people's long and arduous journey of wandering among the nations. And yet just three years after they hit their lowest point, the Jewish people were able to attain something which had eluded them for nearly two millennia – national independence back in their ancient homeland.

For centuries, the Christian world had insisted that the Jews were cursed to endless wanderings for killing Christ, and yet here they were back in charge of their own country once again.

It is fair to say that the rebirth of Israel came as something of a shock to the Jewish people themselves. Their response was one of relief and a feeling of historic vindication. For centuries, the Christian world had insisted that the Jews were cursed to endless wanderings for killing Christ, and yet here they were back in charge of their own country once again. This demonstrated that God has an enduring covenant relationship with the Jews.

The Holocaust came as a moral shock to the Christian world. We knew that Christian antisemitic teachings had played a key role in the Nazi genocide against the Jews. After all, Hitler had so many willing Christian accomplices to his inhumane crimes against the Jews not because they were enamoured with his political views on national socialism, but rather the established churches of Europe had taught the people for centuries to hold the Jews in utter contempt.

Still, if we only had the Holocaust, many Christians would point to it as just another example of the 'curse' in operation against the Jews. Rather, it was the national rebirth of Israel just three years later which came as such a great theological shock to the Christian world. Suddenly, it was hard to defend the teaching of the permanence of Jewish exile. Therefore, many churches began to reconsider their antagonistic theological positions, such as Replacement Theology and the odious charge of 'Deicide'.

However, some church leaders to this day refuse to adjust their theology to match the reality of a restored Israel. They would rather try to change the reality back to fit their theology of a scattered Israel. Thus, we find churches and theologians joining the BDS campaign and other efforts to delegitimize and destroy Israel.

The rebirth of Israel in 1948 came a crushing theological and cultural shock to the Arab and Muslim world. This is because for centuries, Islam had taught Muslims that they belonged to a superior faith and therefore they were a superior people with a natural right to rule over Jews and Christians. This was the religious and legal basis for the unjust dhimmi system which prevailed throughout the Middle East and North Africa for some 1400 years, relegating Christian and Jewish minorities to second-class citizenship under Muslim domination.

When Israel emerged victorious in 1948, the Arab and Muslim world could not accept it. And thus emerged the endless string of bizarre conspiracy theories about Israel's unlikely triumph.

Yet when Israel emerged victorious in 1948, the Arab and Muslim world could not accept it. How could a rag-tag band of inferior Jews, long rejected by their God, beat larger Muslim armies on the field of battle? And how could they do so just three years after the Jews suffered through the ravages of the Holocaust? This all had to be explained away! And

thus emerged the endless string of bizarre conspiracy theories about Israel's unlikely triumph seventy-eight years ago. It is hard to deny that the rebirth of Israel was anything but a miracle which defies explanation.

On the 12th May, Rose and Maurice Toms are celebrating Rose's 89th birthday and their 70th wedding anniversary.



In lieu of gifts, Rose and Maurice would like to donate all monies from the occasion to go toward the *Ahuzat Yeladim* school.

Donations can be made to WIZO QLD account:

BSB: 484799

ACC: 600246.

Please leave your name on the deposit and the word HOPE TOMS.

All donations are tax deductible.

Rose and Maurice have been part of WIZO Keshet for many, many years, with Rose as President.

We wish them both much happiness and health!

AHUZAT YELADIM SCHOOL



THE PANEL MELBOURNE 2000	MAJTELES DEBRA PERER 2010	PYKE ASHLEIGH & LEIGHTON MELBOURNE 2011	LEVI LEW & EVA SYDNEY 2000	THOMSON JAN 71 QUEENSLAND 2012	HENDEL HARRY MELBOURNE 2012	TURSZ HENIA & JUZEK MELBOURNE 2013	CAREN & FRY ANN & ULI MELBOURNE
DYKES BETTY WIZO KESHER QUEENSLAND 2018	FEKETE ROSE SYDNEY 2015	COLLINS YVETTE SYDNEY 2015	BERKOVITS ANITA SYDNEY 2015	COHEN TIFFANY SYDNEY 2015	VAN DER POORTEN ALF & JOY 71 SYDNEY 2015	FREED MYRNA 71 QUEENSLAND 2019	B A MEL
GOULD DITA MELBOURNE 2000			GOLDSTONE FAM & ALAN MELBOURNE 2017	FRIENDS OF ISRAEL QUEENSLAND 2018			
KOHN RYSIA & ADAM MELBOURNE 2011	SCHEVER TOM MELBOURNE 2011	ZILBERLICHT SOLOMON & IRENE MELBOURNE 2011	ROSEN JOE & JEAN 71 PERTH	HOFFMAN ZINA 71 MELBOURNE	BOGNAR RONY & GEORGE SYDNEY 2013	WAKERMAN ESTHER SYDNEY 2013	

Israel ישראל News



Since the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip on January 19, 2025, a perception has taken hold among the Israeli public that is detached from the reality on the ground: that the Strip's borders are closed, the fighting has stopped and Hamas is on the verge of collapse. But conversations with IDF officials paint the opposite picture: Hamas is undergoing a systematic and rapid process of rebuilding its strength.

According to officials, the humanitarian aid corridor is one of the channels enabling Hamas to rebuild, with at least two shipments recently uncovered in which banned materials had been hidden under the guise of food and approved humanitarian equipment. These seizures are not isolated incidents, but part of a mechanism intended to ensure Hamas's survival and prevent its collapse.

The ceasefire has not only failed to stop Hamas - it has also given the terrorist organization breathing room to rebuild and rearm. Hamas is exploiting the delay in implementing the second stage of the agreement as a "window of opportunity" Hamas is also increasing its open presence on the ground. Its operatives move around in public, strengthen governance, man armed checkpoints and restore government infrastructure. Hamas firmly controls more than two-thirds of the territory in the Strip that is not held by the Israel Defense Forces. That is why security officials believe it is important for Israel to keep insisting on advancing the demilitarization agreement in Gaza and not reach a situation in which the war in Iran and Lebanon exhausts the international community and Israel itself and diverts it from the goal of demilitarizing the Strip.

Lilach Shoval - May 8 2026 Israel Hayom



LAUGHTER... THE BEST MEDICINE

A Catholic, a Protestant, a Muslim and a Jew were in a discussion during a dinner.

Catholic: "I have a large fortune... I am going to buy Citibank!"

Protestant: "I am very wealthy and will buy General Motors!"

Muslim: "I am a fabulously rich Prince... I intend to purchase Microsoft!"

They then all wait for the Jew to speak... The Jew stirs his coffee, places the spoon neatly on the table, takes a sip of his coffee, looks at them and casually says:

"I'm not selling."

Recipe

Try these incredibly tasty Israeli seed biscuits.

You won't stop at one... or three.

1 cup sunflower seeds.

1 cup pepitas (pumpkin seeds).

1/2 cup sesame seeds.

1/2 brown sugar.

Some cranberries and other mixed fruits chopped, handful of almond flakes, cashews and other nuts to your liking.

2 egg whites (if using extra-large eggs, increase all dry ingredients by 25%).

Preheat oven to 180° C (170°C fan forced).

Cover biscuit tray with baking paper and sprinkle with a fine layer of almond flakes.

Blend egg whites with brown sugar into a thick paste.

Add all seeds and cranberries, mix all together until well coated with egg/sugar paste.

Place teaspoon or dessert spoon sized dollops of mix onto biscuit tray.

Bake 15-20 minutes in a medium oven or until biscuits have some colour.

Thank you, Susan Segal!



DONATE YOUR REFUND!

Every container makes a difference! Drop off your empty containers, including wine bottles and donate your refund to WIZO.

[CLICK ON HERE TO JOIN OUR GROUP.](#) [CLICK ON HERE TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN DROP OFF YOUR CONTAINERS.](#)



REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR WIZO QUEENSLAND MEMBERSHIP FOR 2026!

THERE IS NO NEED TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IF IT WAS PAID FROM SEPTEMBER 2025

By becoming a member of WIZO QLD, you become part of 250,000 Zionist women worldwide. In Israel, WIZO has the highest rating for accountability among charitable organizations. We support one out of four Israel citizens and are the NUMBER ONE welfare agency, after the Israeli Government.

For a mere \$40.00 per year, you can stay connected with all that is going on in WIZO Queensland. You will also receive our Queensland Newsletter, which you are reading right now, every two months. The Newsletter, as you can see, is filled with upcoming events, articles, photos and everything that goes on in the world of WIZO and current Israel news.

You can become a member through either of these links:

<https://square.link/u/80Ai7eHo?src=sheet>

<https://form.jotform.com/253157656327867>

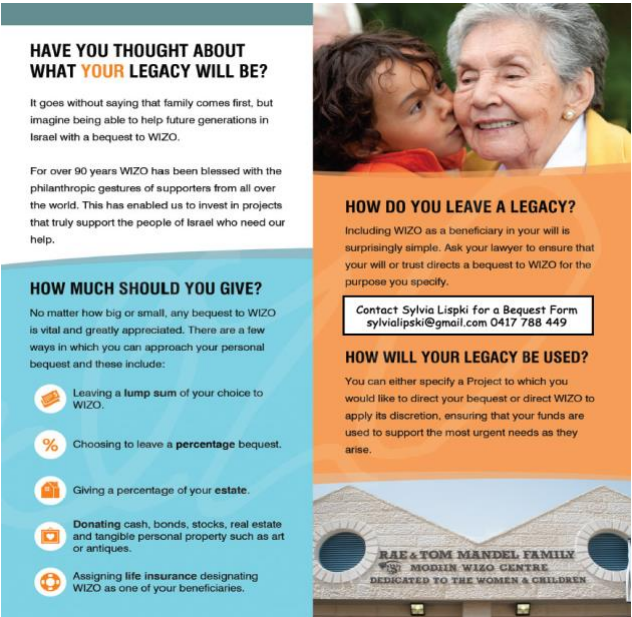
Or direct transfer:

WIZO Queensland Account

BSB: 484799

ACC: 000152145

LEAVING A LEGACY THROUGH WIZO



HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT YOUR LEGACY WILL BE?

It goes without saying that family comes first, but imagine being able to help future generations in Israel with a bequest to WIZO.

For over 90 years WIZO has been blessed with the philanthropic gestures of supporters from all over the world. This has enabled us to invest in projects that truly support the people of Israel who need our help.

HOW MUCH SHOULD YOU GIVE?

No matter how big or small, any bequest to WIZO is vital and greatly appreciated. There are a few ways in which you can approach your personal bequest and these include:

- Leaving a **lump sum** of your choice to WIZO.
- Choosing to leave a **percentage** bequest.
- Giving a **percentage** of your **estate**.
- Donating cash, bonds, stocks, real estate and tangible personal property such as art or antiques.
- Assigning life insurance designating WIZO as one of your beneficiaries.

HOW DO YOU LEAVE A LEGACY?

Including WIZO as a beneficiary in your will is surprisingly simple. Ask your lawyer to ensure that your will or trust directs a bequest to WIZO for the purpose you specify.

Contact Sylvia Liskpi for a Bequest Form
sylvialiskpi@gmail.com 0417 788 449

HOW WILL YOUR LEGACY BE USED?

You can either specify a Project to which you would like to direct your bequest or direct WIZO to apply its discretion, ensuring that your funds are used to support the most urgent needs as they arise.

RAE & TOM MANDEL FAMILY
1ST MODLIN WIZO CENTRE
DEDICATED TO THE WOMEN & CHILDREN