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PHOTO OF THE WEEK

BARMITZVAH CELEBRATION



ARK wishes a huge Mazel Tov to Max Blumenkranc and his family on an amazing Bar Mitzvah last Shabbat.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ARK

MEGILLAH READING



A Megillah reading will be held at Rabbi Gabi's home at 9pm Saturday 23rd March. All welcome, text Rabbi for address.

PURIM KIDDUSH AND HAMENTASHEN BAKE



you are invited to

PRE-PURIM KIDDUSH

SCHNITZELS HOTDOGS HAMENTASHEN

Best costume wins a prize

5:45PM FRIDAY, 22

MARCH

 **AND** 
HAMENTASHEN BAKE



FRIDAY 22nd March
Time : 5.45PM
Followed by service at 6.15pm
Venue : ARK Centre



A FREE EVENT BUT PLEASE REGISTER
YOUR ATTENDANCE:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CQEGQ>



[Register Here](#)

SCHNITZELS ARE BACK!



After many requests, ARK Schnitzels are again available to purchase.
Cost: \$3 / Schnitzel

Orders to be placed by Monday 25th March
Pick up Wednesday 27th March
(from ARK between 9am-2pm)

Please call the office on 8658 4044 or email office@arkcentre.com.au
to place your order.

BACKGAMMON

BACKGAMMON TOURNAMENT @ ARK CENTRE

SPONSORED BY ERDI FOUNDATION

BOOK NOW

<https://www.trybooking.com/CQJDN>

OPPORTUNITY
TO BUY
BACK IN ONCE!



PRIZES!
1st PRIZE \$250
2nd PRIZE \$100

TUESDAY 2ND APRIL

Time : 7.00PM

ARK members \$20

non-members \$25



All queries: manager@arkcentre.com.au

BOOK NOW

SHABBAT DINNER

Shabbat Dinner

Friday 5th April 2024

Join us, for a sit down shabbat dinner with
Special guest , Dassi Erlich



Dassi Erlich's story is of a courageous survivor learning to move beyond the horror she grew up with and finding her own way. A high-profile lobbyist, justice campaigner and advocate for sexual abuse survivors. Dassi will share her story giving extraordinary insight into a secretive sect little known to the outside world and share the harsh upbringing she experienced which made her such a target for the predatory Leifer.

Service to commence at 6.15pm

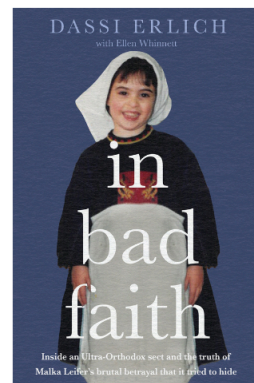
Followed by dinner at 6.45pm

Cost for dinner :

- \$80 ARK members
- \$90 non-members
- \$25 Adults under 30 years old

Please click on the link to book

<https://www.trybooking.com/CPYQB>



Books available for
purchase
via the booking link
and will be
distributed
at the dinner

Book tickets here

SECOND SEDER



Passover


SEDER

Join us for a meaningful and traditional
Second Night Seder at ARK.

TUESDAY 23 APRIL

Shul Service: 6.30pm

Dinner Time: 7.00pm



Cost : Adults \$80 non members \$90
Children (5-11 years) \$50 non members \$55
Under 5s free



<https://www.trybooking.com/CQJZR>



office@arkcentre.com.au for more information

Book Now

A MESSAGE FROM RABBI GABI



It's no secret that the past few months have been a challenging time for Jewish people around the world including Australia. As the children and grandchildren of Holocaust survivors, we are steadfast in our gratitude to this country for letting in our parents and grandparents. They came here to seek refuge, and found a tolerant and multicultural society, one where they could be their full Jewish selves alongside their friends and neighbours.

Since October 7th, the feeling of security here has been a little more tenuous. Suddenly, it feels that Australia, despite it historically being one of the most tolerant and multicultural societies in the world for Jews, has regressed. We are seeing swastikas daubed on our synagogues and buildings. We are seeing unrest in our neighbourhoods.

The boycott of Jews for being "Zionist" is widespread in the arts and cultural festivals. And some of our dearest multicultural partners, with whom we have fostered longstanding relationships have not been there to support Jewish people during this tough time. As a rabbi who has long been invested in multiculturalism and interfaith work, I would be lying if I would say I have not been shocked and hurt.

Jewish people in Australia have forever been on the forefront of social movements demanding change for those that are marginalised, or experiencing disadvantage. Our community is steadfast in our commitment to a more fair, just and equitable Australia, one where the voices of indigenous people, refugees, and all those that want to be part of this glorious nation are given the chance.

It isn't perfect, but it has certainly been a golden age. One where Jewish people never doubted their place, and always felt safe. And yet, since October 7th, I think a lot about whether we are living past the peak of the golden age? Has Australia become less tolerant of its Jews?

On one hand, I can emphatically see that the Australian Government has strengthened legislation that would protect people from doxing, and has shown a deep commitment to providing security to our community. But yet, I worry that perhaps what was once a fringe ideology of blaming Jews for the problems in society, has grown into antisemitism that is rearing its head in earnest right here, becoming mainstream.

I know when my grandfather came to Australia, in the shadows of the Holocaust, he came here because he wanted to get away from the antisemitism and fear that had stalked European Jews for millennia.

I'd like to believe that the golden age of this country is not yet over. I retain faith in the State and Federal Governments who have shown that they receive feedback from our community and take our recommendations seriously. I have received many personal letters and emails from other faith leaders, appalled at the treatment of Jews in light of October 7th. But more than that, I retain faith that decent Australians do not stand for Jew hatred, or any other type of discrimination.

I know too well that the loudest voices make the most noise, but do not speak for the majority of us. Aussies want to live in peace and security, retain their Australian way of life, and ensure that all people feel safe, Jews included.

As we contemplate the challenges facing the Jewish community at home and around the world, it's particularly poignant to acknowledge the timing of our current reflections amidst the observance of the Fast of Esther (commemorated today as we don't fast on Friday or Shabbat), and the upcoming celebration of Purim.

Purim commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people from the genocidal plot orchestrated by Haman, an archetypal antisemite whose name has echoed through the annals of history. As we prepare to celebrate the triumph of good over evil, it's a sobering reminder that the scourge of antisemitism has persisted across generations. In light of the record high numbers of antisemitic incidents, and the struggles our community faces, these moments of introspection during Purim take on added significance. Just as Esther and Mordechai bravely confronted the forces of hatred and intolerance, so too must we draw strength from our collective heritage to combat antisemitism in all its forms, ensuring that the spirit of Purim continues to inspire resilience, solidarity, and hope for a brighter future.

Chag Purim Samech, Shabbat Shalom and Am Israel Chai!

Rabbi Gabi

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

Oseh Shalom a prayer for peace

עוֹשֶׂה שָׁלוֹם בְּמִרְמָיו הוּא
יַעֲשֶׂה שָׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל
יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן

*Oseh shalom bimromav, hu'yaseh shalom
aleinu, va'akol yisrael. Vimru: amen.*

May the One who creates peace in
the heavens bring peace to us and to
all of Israel. And we say: Amen.

my JEWISH LEARNING

YAHRZEIT



Wishing long life to Lisa Reti-Waks and family on the passing of her
grandmother Edith Reti

Morris Broder on the yahrzeit of his mother **Chana Broder**

Wishing long life to all those affected by the tragedy in Israel.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday to these members of our community for the upcoming week;

Harvey Cohen
Adam Feldman
Geoffrey Kohn
Morris Broder
Lily Davies
Natasha Blumenkranc
Josh Bursztyn
Jonathan Zimet
Jacqui Davis
Samuel Berman
Mark Grasso

MAZEL TOV

Mazel Tov to Miriam & Philip Zajac and family
on the birth of their granddaughter
Pippa Kety

CANDLE LIGHTING



Kabbalat Shabbat

Service commences approx. 6.15pm concludes by 6.45pm.

Kiddush commences at 5.45pm

Shabbat Morning

Service commences at **10.00 am** sharp.

Candle Lighting

Friday 22nd March (Adar II 12, 5784) at **7:10pm**

Shabbat Ends

Saturday 23rd March (Adar II 13, 5784) at **8.06pm**

Parasha : Vayikra

FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION

Footy is back and that means so is ARK Footy Tipping Comp! Please join up and feel free to share with your family.



JOIN US !
ESPN footy tips

https://www.footytips.com.au/comps/ark_centre_2024



JOIN HERE

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

COMEDY FESTIVAL
Michael Shafar

MICHAEL SHAFAR

lots to say

*"Shafar circumnavigates the line
between edgy and offensive
with beautiful finesse"*

★★★★☆ *The Age*

28 MARCH - 21 APRIL 9:30PM (8:30PM SUNDAY)
QT MELBOURNE, 133 RUSSELL STREET
TICKETS: COMEDYFESTIVAL.COM.AU



ARK members enter code **ARK** for 20% off tickets to any of his shows.

[Book here](#)

NATIONAL JEWISH FERTILITY NETWORK'S Inaugural event

**THE AUSTRALIAN JEWISH FERTILITY NETWORK'S
INAUGURAL MELBOURNE COMMUNITY
Event**

One in six families in our community struggle with the heartache of infertility. AJFN's financial, emotional, and spiritual support is more than just support; it is a lifeline. Together, we can give these families hope and the chance to create not only a life but a lifetime of treasured memories.

Join us for an evening filled with miracles as we play our part in building the next generation. Featuring:



AN EXCLUSIVE VIEWING OF AJFN'S
DOCUMENTARY 1 IN 6: JANINE & SHIMON'S
RAW AND EMOTIVE IVF JOURNEY



DR. DANIEL LANTSBERG
FERTILITY SPECIALIST
MELBOURNE IVF

**INCREDIBLE PRIZES
TO BE WON!**

**WED 3 APRIL
7:15 FOR 7:30PM**

Proud Sponsors

EVOLUTION
CAPITAL

MelbourneIVF
A MEMBER OF VIDEO HEALTH

Detector Inspector

GAIA
natural baby

 **ajfn**

 *It's more than a life, it's a lifetime.*

Please join the Australian Jewish Fertility Network as they present to the community how they support all Jewish Australians on their fertility journey with financial, emotional and spiritual support. Raising awareness and educating the community about infertility in the Jewish community. Ensuring that no Jewish Australian is ever alone on their fertility journey.

[Register Here](#)

JEAP APP CSG & Hatzolah App



JEAP is the Jewish Emergency Application giving you instant access to the two Victorian Jewish Community First Response groups.

At the push of a button, access CSG for security-related incidents and Hatzolah for medical emergencies to obtain fastest response 'when every second counts'.

We encourage all our members to download this App and hope that you never need to use it.

Download App

The SOCIAL BLUEPRINT



THE SOCIAL BLUEPRINT

Jewish Connections Through Community | Business | Social

TheSocialBlueprint.org.au

The Social Blueprint offers real connections, real help and real benefits for all Victorian Jewish community needs in order to unlock the potential of our community.

Visit The Social Blueprint to see:
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Videos & Blogs
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Aid | Health | Jewish Life | Businesses



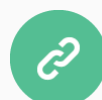
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