

YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION 2025

מה שאבד ומה שנותר

WHAT WAS LOST AND WHAT ENDURES

וואָס איז פֿאַרלוירן
און וואָס איז פֿאַרבליבן

23 APRIL 2025

ROBERT BLACKWOOD HALL,
MONASH UNIVERSITY



JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF VICTORIA

MAJOR SUPPORTER



THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

The JCCV is the elected peak body representing and advocating for Victoria's Jewish community. Serving as a vital connection between Jewish organisations, government and community leaders, and the broader public, the JCCV leads our community towards a stronger future.

The JCCV represents 58 member organisations across the Victorian Jewish community. These organisations include synagogues, Jewish schools and education providers, museums and cultural groups, sporting clubs, aged care providers, social justice organisations and more.

The JCCV is committed to fostering a community that is both strong and inclusive, and where Jewish life can thrive in an ever-changing society.

OUR MISSION

**CHAMPIONING A VIBRANT AND
RESILIENT FUTURE FOR VICTORIA'S
JEWISH COMMUNITY.**

OUR PILLARS

The JCCV's work is guided by four key pillars:

LEAD

Engaging political and key stakeholders to advance community interests through evidence-based research and advocacy.

ENGAGE

Actively listening to the community to uncover key needs and perspectives, broker connections and define common goals.

OUR MISSION

OUR PILLARS (CONTINUED)

COORDINATE

Mobilising collaborations between Jewish organisations and volunteers to meet the evolving needs of Victoria's Jewish community.

UPSKILL

Engaging service providers to foster understanding of Jewish life, history, and antisemitism and build intercultural connections.

SIGN UP TO JCCV'S NEWSLETTER HERE



REMEMBERING THE PAST, STRENGTHENING FOR THE FUTURE

**THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF VICTORIA IS PROUD TO ONCE
AGAIN PRESENT THE COMMUNITY
YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION.**

For decades, the JCCV has undertaken the solemn duty of hosting the community's annual Yom Hashoah Commemoration.

Each year, we strive to create a meaningful and memorable ceremony that honours the six million Jews who perished and acknowledges the resilience of those who survived.

Honouring the past is not only an act of remembrance but a commitment to the future. By educating younger generations about the Shoah, we ensure that history is not forgotten, its lessons remain relevant, and the voices of survivors continue to be heard. In a time of rising antisemitism, it is more important than ever to stand against hatred and uphold the values of truth, justice, and resilience.

For the JCCV, this commemoration is more than a moment of reflection; it is a call to ensure that remembrance leads to action.

We remember the past so we can strengthen the future.

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“Od Lo Avda Tikvatenu”

– “Our hope is not yet lost.”

These words from Israel’s anthem, Hatikvah, capture the spirit of resilience that has carried the Jewish people through generations.

The Shoah brought unimaginable loss—the destruction of communities, cultures, and millions of lives. Yet, through immense suffering, hope endured. Survivors rebuilt their lives, preserving their identity and passing down their stories so that future generations could remember and carry their legacy forward.

Tonight, we honour what was lost and what endures—the memory of those who perished, the strength of those who survived, and the generations that continue to uphold their legacy.

80 years after the Shoah, our community stands strong. Our hope is not lost.

Robert Blackwood Hall
49 Scenic Boulevard
Monash University VIC 3800

Box Office: 9905 1111
monash.edu/performing-arts-centres

The recording or photographing of this performance is strictly prohibited.

All mobile phones and electronic devices must be switched off in the auditorium.

PROGRAM

Advance Australia Fair

Welcome Address

Introduction	Dr Natalie Bassat and Nina Bassat AM
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What was lost	Youth groups – AUJS, B’nei Akiva, Habonim Dror, Hineni, Netzer, SKIF
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<i>Vilne</i>	Performed by Karen Feldman and Tomi Kalinski
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Survivor testimony	Peter Gaspar OAM
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Candle lighting	Holocaust survivors and their families
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<i>El Maleh Rachamim</i>	Sung by Brett Kaye and St Kilda Shule Musical Ensemble
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PROGRAM

Kaddish

Sung by Brett Kaye
and St Kilda Shule
Musical Ensemble

Unter Dayne Veyse Shtern

Performed by Layla
Carmeli-Wolski,
Gideon Preiss,
and Yoni Ringelblum

What Endures

Bialik College, King David
School, Leibler Yavneh
College, Mount Scopus
Memorial College

Haomnam?

Performed by Rachel
Moshel, Jonathan
Skovron, and Rebecca
Skovron

Closing Remarks

Dr Natalie Bassat and
Nina Bassat AM

Zog Nit Keyn Mol – Partisan Hymn

Multi-school choir,
accompanied by Tomi
Kalinski and conducted
by Ilana Perlich

Hatikvah

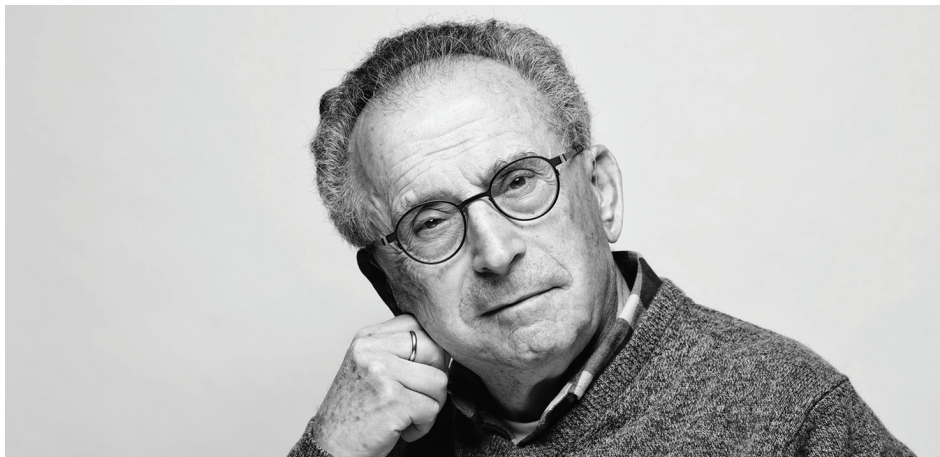


Photo credit: Simon Shiff

TESTIMONY

DELIVERED BY PETER GASPER OAM

Peter was born in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia in 1937. He was four years old when Bratislava was occupied by the Nazis.

In June 1942, Peter was told by his teacher that he should not return to school because he was Jewish. Peter and his parents went into hiding, spending their nights anywhere they could find including a dugout the size of a grave for several days during the winter of 1944. Peter attributes his survival to the brave people who risked their lives to help him.

Peter came down with an illness and with no other option, his parents decided to turn themselves in. Peter and his mother were separated from Peter's father and sent to Terezin, where they were imprisoned for five months until their liberation on 8 May 1945.

Of the thousands of children interned at Terezin, Peter was one of very few who survived. Peter and his family arrived in Australia in 1949.

CANDLELIGHTERS

Peter Gaspar OAM

accompanied by Tim Gaspar

Wolf Deane

accompanied by Jeremy Deane

Joe Nowoweiski

accompanied by Alida Lipton

Rachel Kalman

accompanied by Lisa Borowick

Erica Frydenberg AM

accompanied by Dr Lexi Frydenberg

Cera Newhouse

accompanied by Laura Mrocki

THANK YOU

The JCCV extends its heartfelt gratitude to the volunteers who helped shape this year's Yom Hashoah Commemoration.

Many committee members are descendants of Holocaust survivors, with families who endured unimaginable loss. Their commitment to this commemoration is a powerful testament to our community's unwavering dedication to preserving the memory of the six million Jewish men, women, and children who perished.

JCCV YOM HASHOAH COMMITTEE

Nina Bassat AM

Motti Blum

Amanda Castelan-Starr

Joshua Goodman

Natalie Gunn

Sidra Moshinsky

Pauline Rockman OAM

Aviva Weinberg

CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAM

Chai Collective – Adrian Glaubert,
Sarah Cossey Glaubert

Ellie Roth

SUPPORTERS

JCCV PATRONS

Anonymous

Daniel Aghion KC & Jenny Aghion

Besen Foundation

Erdi Foundation

Grahame Leonard AM & Ruth Leonard

Estate of Jakob Frenkiel

Gandel Foundation

Rosshandler Charitable Fund

Spotlight Foundation

Victor Smorgon Group

YOM HASHOAH SPONSORS

Bendigo Bank

Monash University

SILVER

Sharene & Sam Hambur

BRONZE

Anonymous

Nina Bassat AM & Robert Bassat

Joey and Julie Borensztajn

Diane Cass & Dr Mervyn Cass

Hannah & Mark Fagenblat

Belinda & David Fisher

Harry Kamien

Esther Kister

Gideon Kline and family

Ian Pamensky

Glenda & Sam Recht

Pauline Rockman OAM



YOM HASHOAH CONTRIBUTORS

ORGANISATIONS

AUJS

Bialik College

Bnei Akiva

Ckaos

Habonim Dror

Hineni

King David School

Leibler Yavneh College

Melbourne Holocaust Museum

Mount Scopus Memorial College

Netzer

SKIF

Sholem Aleichem College

St Kilda Hebrew Congregation

UJEB

YOM HASHOAH CONTRIBUTORS

INDIVIDUALS

Dr Natalie Bassat

Nina Bassat AM

Layla Carmeli-Wolski

Sarah Cossey-Glaubert

Karen Feldman

Dovi Hanner

Aviel Hurvitz

Tomi Kalinski

Brett Kaye

Rachel Moshel

Gideon Preiss

Yoni Ringelblum

Jonathan Skovron

Rebecca Skovron

Avraham Yee



YOM HASHOAH 2024 – WE ARE HERE



The Shoah Victims' Names Recovery Project

Let No Holocaust Victim Be Forgotten!

Over 4.9 million names and biographies of Jews murdered in the Holocaust are commemorated in Yad Vashem's Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names. However, the names of nearly 1 million remain unknown and time is running out.


Submit a page of testimony online:
<https://forms.yadvashem.org/pot-online-form>

Or download here:
<https://www.yadvashem.org/downloads.html#pot>

For assistance contact:
collect@yadvashem.org.il

Australian Friends of Yad Vashem
<https://yadvashem.com.au/>

YAD VASHEM
The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority
Hall of Names, P.O.B. 3477, Jerusalem 91034



יד ושם
המוזיאון לזכר השואה
www.yadvashem.org
91034 ירושלים 3477 פ.ד.ב.

Page of Testimony ערך עדות


Pages of Testimony commemorate the Jews who perished during the Holocaust. שטחים הנזכרים בעמודי עדות הם לזכר היהודים שנהרגו בשואה. שטחים הנזכרים בעמודי עדות הם לזכר היהודים שנהרגו בשואה.

The Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Law 5713-1953 determines in section 2 that: "The task of Yad Vashem is to gather into the homeland material regarding all those members of the Jewish people who had done their utmost to rescue Jews from the clutches of death, and to perpetuate their names and those of the victims of the Holocaust."

חוק המאזכר והגיבורים 5713-1953 קובע בסעיף 2 כי: "המטרה של יד ושם היא לגבות ולהעביר לארץ ישראל חומרים המעידים על כל מי שהציל יהודים ממוות, ולהעביר את שמותיהם ואלו של קורבני השואה."

Yad Vashem is a memorial to the Jewish people who saved Jews from the clutches of death, and to perpetuate their names and those of the victims of the Holocaust.

יד ושם הוא מוזיאון לזכר היהודים שצילו יהודים ממוות, ולהעביר את שמותיהם ואלו של קורבני השואה.



NAME: Kuczer

HEBREW NAME: כוצר

DATE OF BIRTH: 1913

PLACE OF BIRTH: Chapa

DATE OF DEATH: 1943

PLACE OF DEATH: Poland

Main name:

Previous/other family name:

Approx. age at death:

Citizenship:

Family name of victim's spouse:

Maiden name of victim's spouse:

Member of organization or movement:

Places and activities during the war:

Street:

Victim's family status and children no.:

Victim's profession:

Shoah:

Place of death (town, region, country):

Date of death:

Submitter's first name:

Family name:

Address:

Country:

Relationship to the victim (family/other):

Signature:

During the war I was in a camp / ghetto / forest / in hiding / had false papers / the resistance (circle relevant):

אשכנזי / יהודי / אחר:

אשר לא יכירתי " ושעיתי בידו "

And I shall give them in My house and within My walls a memorial and a name...that shall not be forgotten.