



Courage to Care News

Patron Professor David de Kretser, AC, Governor of Victoria

March 2011

Chairman's Message

It is only March and yet the year has been a very busy one for *Courage to Care* here in Victoria. Thus, it has been rather an initiation by fire for our new Program Coordinator, Zoi Juvris who has very competently taken over the position from Heidi Hayden. Heidi has served us well over the last couple of years and has moved on to further studies. She will however remain actively involved with *Courage to Care* as a volunteer.

In this issue and subsequent ones we will be acknowledging the unparalleled contribution to this program of our survivor speakers. For each, a book could be written about their experiences but we have had the chutzpah to ask them to summarise these in a few lines and, at the same time, ask why they have chosen to become involved with the *Courage to Care* program.

Our thanks to Michael Cohen from the Jewish Holocaust Centre and to Heidi Hayden for these "snapshots".

The Courage to Create Competition which we launched last year is continuing this year. You can read the winning Literary entries and see the winning Artistic entries, though not the dance work that three girls from Kyneton Secondary College developed in response to the quotation that had been given.

We were invited to take the Exhibition to Caulfield General Hospital in February this year and organised a modified program for over 250 of their staff. Sue Morgan, the Pastoral Care Coordinator of the Hospital, reports on that new venture for us.

As this goes to press we are in Warrnambool at the Art Gal-

lery with 1400 students booked to attend sessions over the three week period we are there. From 16 – 20 May we will be in Echuca and we have invited volunteers from *Courage to Care* (NSW) to come to Echuca to see the Victorian Exhibition and Program. We will also join with them to share ideas. As an added bonus, we have organised for students from Galen College Wangaratta to come across to Echuca to perform the drama piece they have created – "Everyone has a Name or Our Shoah" on the evening of Saturday May 21st. And then perhaps follow-up with helping us in Kerang the following week. For the week commencing Monday June 27th we have been invited back to Mentone Girls Secondary College and from Monday 8th. August we will be in Broadmeadows for three weeks.

So come and join us at one of these venues either as a volunteer or else as an observer!

All of these events are the result of the dedicated work of our volunteers. There are many areas in which we require more help and we include a list of those in this issue. If you want to learn more about the work of *Courage to Care* and/or feel that you may have a small amount of time to give in one such area, please contact Zoi and let her know.



Facilitating at Warrnambool

Our Survivors – With Recognition & Respect

Since its introduction in 1992 as a static, travelling Exhibition, *Courage to Care* has received support from many survivors of the Holocaust. We have long recognised that it is the volunteer survivors who are willing to share their experiences with our audiences who have the greatest impact in delivering our continuing message. The feedback we receive from both students and teachers confirm this view. Therefore, we feel that it is appropriate to introduce them to you via this Newsletter and, over the course of this year, we will present you with a brief account of their individual backgrounds and why they have chosen to continue to support *Courage to Care*. Of

course, any account of the individual life experiences of any one of them would fill more than one of these Newsletters and so each of these will be embarrassingly brief.

As an organisation, we appreciate their commitment in terms of the time and efforts, both physical and emotional, that they dedicate to us. Their resilience and strength serve as living examples to the students who hear them speak of the importance of our key messages - **"Each person can make a difference"** and **"Never be a bystander"**. Their very existence serves as testimony to these messages and we hope that our audience are therefore better able to understand the

importance of these words.

We thank the following who have been involved with *Courage to Care* (Vic.) over the years :

Kitia Altman, Peter Barta, Harry Better, Lulek Bron, Danielle Charak, Henry Ekert, Jack Fogel, Peter Gaspar, George Ginsberg, Elizabeth Gorski, Paul Grinwald, Ken Hamer, Stephanie Heller, Floris Kalman, Sonia Kempler, Gilah Leder, Herbert Leder, Jack Leder, Helen Leperere, Willy Lermer, Maria Lewit, Vera Medding, David Prince, Richard Rozen, Sarah Saaroni, Eva Slonim, Avram Zelnikow, Halina Zylberman

Tony Weldon

Inside this issue:	
More Survivor Stories	2
More Survivor Stories	3
Chairman;s Message	4
C2C at Caulfield Hospital	4
Courage to Create Competition	5
Warrnambool Exhibition	8
Volunteering for C2C	9

Survivor's Stories

David Prince was incarcerated in the Lodz ghetto from the day the ghetto was hermetically sealed – on 1 May 1940. He remained there until 30 August 1944, when the ghetto was liquidated. He was transported to Auschwitz-Birkenau on the last transport from Lodz, arriving on 1 September 1944. There he spent about a week before being transferred with his father and brother (his mother was murdered in Auschwitz-Birkenau) to Friedland concentration camp – a sub-camp of Gross-Rosen. He was liberated by the Russians on 9 May 1945 – the last day of the Second World War, five years, eight months and eight days after he was incarcerated in Lodz ghetto.

Other than the civil manner in which the Mayor of Friedland approached the prisoners on the day of liberation, David does not recall specific 'acts of kindness' during the war years. However, he is aware that there were many non-Jews who endangered their lives to assist Jews, and deems it important to acknowledge this and for this to serve as a paradigm for others. To this end he values the work –and the goals - of *Courage to Care*, which he deems to be very important and enjoyed his involvement with the program. David holds that there is goodness and kindness in most people and, despite the trauma of the Holocaust, has a positive view of humankind.

Willie Lerner believes that the '*Courage to Care*' program, in which he was involved for several years, is "absolutely worthwhile". Students who participated in the program, he says, derived inordinate benefit – both from the structured curriculum and from their contact with



David Prince

survivors of the Holocaust. The students, many of whom had never heard of the Holocaust, were invariably interested and engaged, and asked relevant questions. The message of tolerance, humanity dignity and the kindness that one should show to another, said Willie, are paramount.

Born in Krakow, Willie spent the war years in Plaszow, Ostrowic, Birkenau, Sachsenhausen and, finally Kaufering, a sub-camp of Dachau. Asked about 'acts of kindness' during the war, he recalls that early in the piece, while in a separate section of Plaszow, he was given a pass to walk three kilometers to a railway station to bid farewell to his parents who were being transported to another camp. En route he was stopped by a Pole who warned him that he should not proceed further as he would be killed. Soon after, he was stopped by yet another Pole and given the same message. He believes that these Poles saved his life. He returned to Plaszow with-



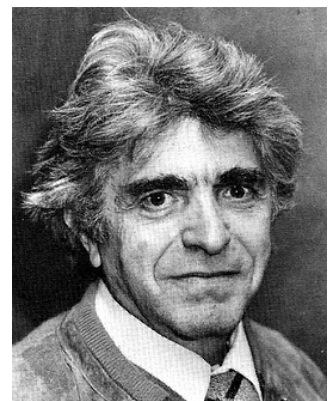
Willie Lerner

out bidding farewell to his parents. He later learned that they were murdered in Belzec.

Born in Vilna in May 1924, **Avraham Zeleznikow**, well-known identity of Acland Street's former Café Scheherazade, spent some 18 months in the Vilna ghetto during the Second World War and, from September 1943 to July 1944, served with the partisans in the forests. There he focussed on intelligence and espionage – and on blowing up German trains and other communication lines. He subsequently joined the Red Army in the campaign to liberate Vilna. He was later wounded in an incident of which he has no memory, was hospitalized with a head injury, and only regained consciousness some six weeks later. A Bundist and at that stage an avowed secularist, Avraham is yet ever grateful to the ultra-Orthodox Lubavitch movement, a representative of which was responsible for saving his life – a fascinating story, but for another time! He recalls that this occurred around October 1944 as it coincided with his memory of Yom Kippur that year, when about a thousand Jews gathered for prayers in what was by that stage Vilna's only surviving synagogue. Avraham, whose father was arrested in 1939 and, apparently, subsequently murdered, lost his mother, sister and her two young children. All perished at the hands of the Nazis, probably in the Ponary Forest where, between July 1941 and August 1944, the mass-murder of

about 70,000 mostly Polish Jews, together with an estimated 20,000 Polish non-Jews and 8,000 non-Jewish Russians, occurred at the hands of the German SD, SS and Lithuanian Nazi collabo-

rators. Avraham, who arrived in Australia in March 1951, later became involved with Bnai Brith's '*Courage to Care*' program, together with his wife, Masha. Asked about the program, his response was emphatic: "It is *very* worthwhile", he said. He recalled that during the Second World War he was witness to many acts of kindness when non-Jews provided the partisans with food and weapons and when members of a monastery located outside the Vilna ghetto were inordinately supportive. The Talmudic dictum that one who saves a life is as though he (or she) has saved the world is implicit in his response to the selflessness of the many brave non-Jewish people whose help proved to be so important to the activities of Avraham and his fellow partisans.



Avraham Zeleznikow

Jack Fogel, born in Turek, Poland, in December 1924, lost his entire family during the Second World War – his parents, sister and three brothers - and has been left with scant information about how and where they perished. His eldest brother, he says, had joined the Polish army and may have been killed during the initial invasion of Poland by Germany in September 1939. The rest of his family members were exterminated during the Holocaust.

Survivors Stories (cont.)

Jack, who was tattooed in Auschwitz, spent the war years – from 1940 until May 1945 – in countless Nazi camps and endured a number of Death Marches. He was finally liberated in May 1945, at Neustadt, Germany, while incarcerated on a ship – the only one of several on which Jewish and other prisoners were held which, miraculous for him and for the others on that ship - was not blown up on that day.

While Jack holds that the ‘*Courage to Care*’ program proved of some value for school students, the wider public may have been confused by the name of the program, he says, perhaps perceiving it to providing some sort of health *care* for the ill or frail. It is important, he believes, for the program to focus on *why* one should practise tolerance and accord dignity to others rather than simply preach tolerance. The vehicle to do this, he holds, is through the personal stories of Holocaust survivors, particularly those who were in hiding and who were helped by non-Jews at enormous risk.. Asked whether he experienced any ‘acts of kindness’ during the Holocaust – a period to which 1986 Nobel Peace Laureate Elie Wiesel calls ‘The Kingdom of Night’ - he says that he cannot recall a single instance of compassion from non-Jews during that horrific period.



Jack Fogel

Born on 26 June 1925, **Tuvia Lipson** spent four and a half years in the Lodz ghetto – in the city in which he was born. Thereafter he was transported to Auschwitz, where he was tattooed and where he remained for a few weeks before being sent to work in a coal mine at Rybnik (called Ridenthau in German), some 60 kilometers from Auschwitz. He describes how, on at least two occasions, he was miraculously saved from a selection – once on arrival at Auschwitz by a Pole (whether Jewish or not – Tuvia never knew) and later by a Jewish inmate.



Tuvia Lipson

From Rybnik, where he worked for five months, Tuvia was taken to Mauthausen in Austria where he remained for several days. He was then transported to Ebensee, also in Austria, where he spent five months before being liberated by the Russians. His parents, a brother and a sister were murdered in Auschwitz. Two of his siblings – a brother and a sister – fled to Russia where they survived. His brother subsequently settled in Australia while his surviving sister went to the United States. Both have since passed away.

Tuvia, who has been very involved in the ‘*Courage to Care*’ program, holds that the work of ‘*Courage to Care*’ is extremely important. He

deems it critical that people realise that – as he says - “things were not all black and white during the Holocaust”. In this context he relates two fascinating stories. The first concerns a German soldier, dressed in SS uniform, whose kindness over a lengthy period of time proved life-saving. The second is a fascinating story which only unfolded two years ago, when Tuvia returned to his former home in Lodz with his son and grandson. There a Polish woman related how her parents were murdered for refusing to hand a nine year-old Jewish child, whom they had hidden under the floorboards of their home for two years, to the Germans, and how a soldier, ordered to kill the young girl, instead fired a shot into the ceiling of the house at the moment the officer departed, thereby pretending to shoot the girl but saving her life. The young girl, together with the daughter of the murdered parents (Tuvia met the daughter who related the story – a story subsequently recorded at Yad Vashem) – learned that the Jewish girl lives in Israel today and meets annually with her Gentile Polish friend with whom she spent the rest of the war years in hiding. This, says, Tuvia, is a story of remarkable courage.

Stephanie Heller spent her youth in Prague with her parents, Theresa and Artur Heibrunn, twin sister Annetta and little sister Elizabet. They were assimilated Jews with many non-Jewish friends. Initially her and her siblings were expelled from school and their athletics association. In 1941 her parents and younger sister were sent on the first transport to Litzmanstat and were told they were going to work in the East. Stephanie and her sister were not allowed to

go with them and never saw them again. Stephanie met Egon Kunewalder and in 1942 they married so as not to be separated. Stephanie, Egon and Anetta were sent to Theresienstadt Ghetto (Terezin) where they stayed for a year. From there they were sent to Auschwitz via cattle trucks. Stephanie and Anetta were selected by Doctor Mengele for his experimental work and were taken to Birkenau with other twins. In Birkenau Stephanie was separated from Egon who was sent to work and she never saw him again. Eventually the sisters were taken on a Death March and Stephanie recalls soldiers who shot those who were too weak to go on. Stephanie remembers acts of kindness including one young girl who got lost on their march, a German farmer found her and looked after her until after the war. She also recalls that during the March they reached Malchov in Germany and a Wehrmacht soldier showed her empathy and kindness.

Stephanie has been involved with *Courage to Care* over many years. She believes that the *Courage to Care* program is very important because it shows that all have the opportunity to do something for other people that may need help, even if it is in a small way. She says ‘if one



Stephanie Heller

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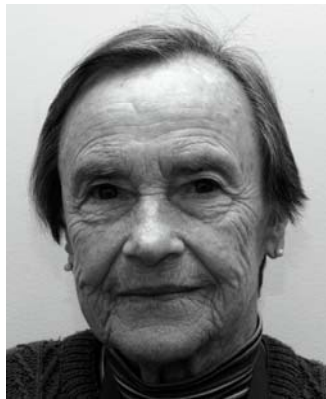
Survivors Stories (cont.)

does something, quite often it influences others to do the same. It doesn't have to be materialistic or financial or in an environment of war. It just needs to be a small act of kindness that gives others hope for the future and trust in mankind'. Stephanie said that today, when there is so much talk that the youth are undisciplined, she often encounters acts of kindness with offers of help.

Sarah Saaroni was born in Lublin, Poland the youngest of four children of a middle class family. Her father had a clothing store. Her oldest brother went to Palestine in 1937 and her second brother escaped to Russia at the beginning of the war and survived there. In June 1941 her family lost contact with her sister who was married with a little boy and living in Brest-

Litovsk. For the first two years of the war Sarah lived in the Lublin Ghetto with her parents. Then they went into hiding.

Sarah recalls that, once as a 16 years old, her father sent her somewhere to sleep for the night but they wouldn't take her in. Frightened and alone in the dark she went to their old apartment and the caretaker took her in. Her father organized for her to go



Sarah Saaroni

to Germany and work as a Polish Christian girl. She lived and worked in Hamburg until 1943. Sarah was tortured by the Gestapo and when deported, escaped by jumping from the train.

She remembers a few acts of kindness but does add that these people were not aware she was Jewish. Once she met a German man on a deserted road and asked for help. He gave her a sandwich and an apple. On another occasion Sarah met a young Polish man who introduced her to a lady who owned bakery where she stayed and worked until the area was liberated by the Russian army. Sarah decided to go with the Russian unit, ending up in a forest surrounded by fighting. A Red Cross assistant allowed Sarah to hide on a Red Cross truck thereby helping her to escape. At the end of the war Sarah was 18 years. Her par-

ents and her sister and family all perished.

Sarah is very involved with *Courage to Care* as a survivor speaker at almost all the programs. She says that *Courage to Care* is worthwhile because 'children should know that we are all humans regardless of the colour of our skin or religion.' She adds that 'even if we don't love one another we should try and live in peace and respect one another for what they are and not what we want them to be'. Sarah said that those people who helped Jews during the war were the real heroes. She explains that at that time helping Jews was very dangerous so these heroes should be acknowledged and people should know of them.'

Courage to Care at Caulfield Hospital February 2011

"Accepting difference: you never know where people have come from and what they've lived through."

"How people were dehumanized – patients feel (a) lack of control and disrespected in hospital and just a 'bed number'. NB to approach patients with compassion and respect and that everyone has a story to tell."

"A reminder of the depth of the trauma of Holocaust survivors."

"Prejudice (leads to) hatred; understanding (leads to) acceptance of others."

"Human Beings do amazing things under special circumstances including protecting family."

"(The) value of face-to-face

discussion to dissolve discrimination."

"Stand up for my ideals – it starts with one person."

These are just some of the comments from a range of staff and volunteers across the Caulfield Hospital campus following their one hour sessions with your fantastic team of volunteers and survivors. 267 people from the Caulfield Hospital Campus (including Community Health and ACAS teams plus some local Glen Eira Council staff) signed up and a further 70 came to the opening event which was addressed poignantly by Dr Howard Goldenberg. The expert and tireless team set up early on Sunday morning and the program ran for the full working week, providing 2 or 3 sessions per day. Each session had a survi-

vor speaking for 25 minutes, time to read some of the art panels and then discussion groups facilitated by trained volunteers to find the relevance of these extraordinary stories in their everyday working lives. The only negative comments were about how overwhelmed some people were by the experience of hearing such powerful personal accounts. It stimulated many reactions and some people came back to listen in to several survivor stories.

This was an awareness raising and challenging educational event which will have effects on many levels. We so appreciated Tony Weldon, Doris Klein and the excellent team of survivors and volunteer facilitators for taking the opportunity of adapting the exhibition and training sessions to the hospital setting. It

worked and was a privilege! Thank you so much!

Sue Morgan is the Pastoral care Coordinator at Caulfield Hospital

Sue Morgan



Sue Morgan addressing the Caulfield Hospital Campus

The Courage to Create Competition

Andrew Kolb

This schools competition was established in the belief that it would add a further dimension or meaning to the visit by students to the Courage to Care Exhibition. The Competition encourages and challenges students to respond to the exhibition in a creative and individual manner. It enables them to give further consideration and reflection on the essential messages, namely that:

- Racism, prejudice and stereotyping should be understood and opposed in every context.
- That apathy or indifference need to be eliminated.
- That each person, no matter how ordinary, can make a difference.

Students who had attended the Exhibition were asked to respond in a Literary or Artistic form to the quotation from St. Francis Of Assisi – “All the darkness of the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle”.

We are grateful to the Besen Foundation for funding the Competition and the prizes offered to the successful Schools and the individual students. In 2010 we had a range of entries from both State Secondary and Independent Schools, with successful entries submitted from both sectors. We hope and indeed expect the number of entries for the 2011 Competition will increase as the competition becomes more established and wider publicised. The judges of the 2010 Competition entries were delighted with the quality and range of entries submitted in both the Creative and Literary sections. Each 2010 entry received was acknowledged and each entrant received a Certificate of Participation. The winners of this competition were:

Literary

Under 16 years	1 st	Hannah Bruty	Beaufort Secondary College
	2 nd	Taylah Pannet	Collingwood College
Over 16 years		Chelsea Richards	Padua College

Artistic

	1 st	Danielle Cabrera	Collingwood College
	2 nd	Jake Sundblom	Kyneton Secondary College
	3 rd	Rochelle Hansen	
		Tahlia Russo	Kyneton Secondary College
		Elise Welsh	
Hon. Mention		Janice Lavea	Collingwood College

THE COURAGE POEM

by Hannah Bruty

Courage is mainly found, from down inside,
It makes you feel good and mostly alive.
It helps you when times are tough,
Courage is a feeling, like bravery, guts, and daring,
Your heart is set to do something, and is never sparing.
Courage is not always fun and happy, or airy fairy,
The way I'm concerned, it is sometimes scary.

Courage is something everyone needs in life,
Everyone's not perfect;
Use it to get you out of trouble and strife.
Don't forget courage, It is not something you can comprehend,
You will always have it to say sorry when you can.

Courage makes you believe in yourself and your ability to be a better person.
It guides you in the right direction and helps you to make the right decision.
It takes courage to be a friend in need to those who have lost a loved one.
To love everyone, always be compassionate and nice.
We should all take responsibility for those who have needs and not enough rights.

Our role is to protect the human rights of the people who have been pushed to the edge and into depression.
We need courage to make a difference to the despair and lonely.
It takes courage to forgive yourself and others. Death ends a relationship not a life.
We must reject racism, prejudice and intolerance to keep out of strife.

Just because one lives in poverty and oppression, doesn't mean they live without dignity
I will never forget courage, wisdom and strength.
Courage will always keep the light of a single candle burning in all the darkness of the World.

More entries next page

The Courage to Create Competition (cont.)

Courage to Care

Essay by Chelsea Richards

“All the darkness of the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle” (Saint Francis of Assisi 1181 – 1226)

When somebody says the word “Holocaust” the usual names may pop into your head such as Adolf Hitler, Heinrich Himmler, Anne Frank, Dr Josef Mengele, Oscar Schindler.....these are the well known names that most people automatically associate with the Holocaust. Books and diaries have been written about these people, documentaries and movies have depicted them as either heroes or villains, bringing these people into the spotlight and earning them global recognition for twentieth century history. Yet what most people do not learn about are the countless common heroes from the Holocaust. Making a difference doesn't have to mean saving thousands of Jews from the extermination camps as Schindler did. Sometimes it was the smallest gestures that made the biggest difference in people's lives. Whether it was smuggling extra food into the concentration camps for the elderly and sick, hiding children in their homes for protection or simply making life in the ghetto's a bit more bearable, these unknown, good Samaritans were the true heroes of the Holocaust, as most of the time they did their good deeds without the need of acknowledgment or notice of others. All the terrible deeds of the Holocaust could not extinguish these people's small yet incredibly powerful actions.

Zofia Baniecka began hiding Jews in her apartment during the winter of 1941. When her house was full, she helped Jews find other safe hiding places. At least 50 Jews were sheltered in her own home from 1941-1944. This brave woman put her life on the line in order to bring about a better life for others being discriminated against unjustly.

Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg – a name which wouldn't have significant meaning to most people, was in fact responsible for saving around 100,000 Jewish lives during the Holocaust. Wallenberg used his diplomatic status to issue “protective passports” to thousands of Jews in Europe, identifying them as Swedish citizens, thereby preventing their deportation to death camps. He would often personally intervene with the Jewish people in order to do this and he even rented more than 30 buildings to house about 10,000 Jewish refugees. He protected the people in these buildings by putting up fake signs such as “The Swedish Research Centre” and hanging the Swedish flag to avoid suspicion. This is the story of a true hero, who used his skills and power to help an oppressed minority group despite the oppression not directly affecting him at all.

A very peculiar and amazing thing happened in the Theresienstadt concentration camp. Many educated Jews were inmates at the ghetto – artists, writers, musicians, diplomats, scientists, philosophers, scholars and poets all crammed in to await their fates. Yet despite these terrible living conditions, the community in Theresienstadt tried to ensure that all the children who passed through continued with their education, and daily classes were held secretly away from the Nazi's attention. People used their skills in order to keep morale high, and contributed their own specialty and taught it to the camp. Conductor Rafael Schachter formed a chorus within the camp and held secret music lessons to keep morale high.

Artist and art teacher Friedl Dicker-Brandeis created drawing classes for children in the ghetto to help them express their creative side and therefore act as a distraction from the ghetto life. This activity resulted in the production of over four thousands children's drawings which were secretly

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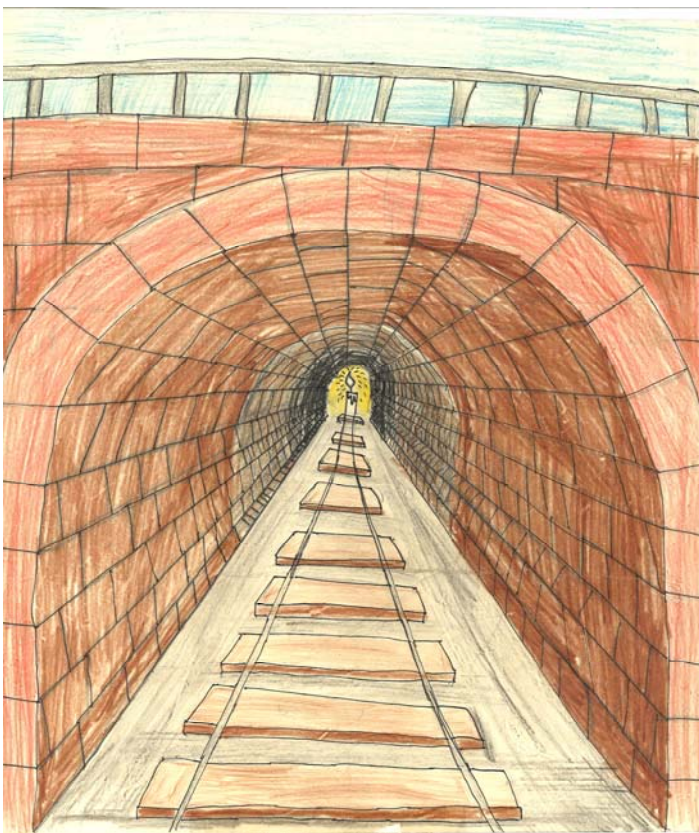
The Courage to Create Competition (cont.)

hidden and preserved from Nazi destruction. Most of these drawings can now be seen at The Jewish Museum in Prague as evidence of the amazing hope and liveliness that these people spread during history's darkest hour.

Each of these good Samaritans and countless more were a "single light," spreading their love, kindness, generosity and simply their human strength to change the lives of those suffering and discriminated against. By putting themselves out, they made their impact – they were responsible for families being reunited, for shielding and protecting children's innocence in the scarring ghettos and for giving innocent people a second, fair chance at life. And none of the excruciating events of the Holocaust, the darkness that took 6 million lives away, can extinguish that light, hope and chance for a better future.

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- <http://socyberty.com/history/heroes-of-the-holocaust-and-their-stories-of-courage/>



Jake Sundblom's Entry



Danielle Cabrera's Entry

If there was ever a time,
When someone should remember,
Should not forger,
It would be now

The long forgotten memories,
So clear for some,
Dim and murky for others,
Should always be remembered,
To avoid the reoccurrence of time.

Alas, these acts of destruction,
Still so fresh to ones mind,
Shall not be forgotten.
For no matter how much one wishes,
To bury these memories
Deep within oneself,
They must not!

We must listen and learn,
Otherwise we are no better than those
before us!
No better than those who were two
apathetic and proud,
To learn who caused so much pain,
Inflicting these people with memories
That never cease
To exist.

A poem by Taylah Pannet



Janice Lavea's Entry

Courage to Care' Exhibition held in the Warrnambool Art Gallery on 15 March, 2011 Carol Armener

Chairman, Tony Weldon introduced the special guests at the recent opening of the 'Courage to Care' exhibition which is to be held at the Warrnambool Art Gallery every weekday from 15 March – 1 April. His emphasis on the reason for the travelling 'Courage to Care' exhibition is to encourage empathy, understanding, a real *courage to care* and adherence to the Australian psyche of giving others a 'fair go'. From this starting point, it is envisaged that many students from local schools and colleges will attend the exhibition in order to complement their current study of the Holocaust by hearing a survivor's story, study the Righteous of Nations panels, and attend a discussion group. Hopefully, students will also be inspired to create a more inclusive and violent free community and learn that each individual can make a difference not only to their life but to the lives of others. It is envisaged too, that word will spread of what the exhibition has to offer, and the locals of Warrnambool and surrounds will come and

enjoy!
A beautiful early autumn evening encouraged a good crowd at the opening. Warrnambool music teachers Ms Erin Toulmin (clarinet) and Ms Airlie Tait (flute) played for visitors prior to the official opening and later as a duet.
The first official item of the night was the Welcome to Country by Ms Adeline McDonald from the Gunditj-mara Aboriginal Cooperative and dancers who performed and sang in their local language.
Special guest and local hero Mr Nathan McSween, his family and the young boys he saved from drowning in the Hopkins River were also in attendance. This was a proud moment for Nathan when he was presented with a certificate for this incredible act of bravery. A modest man, Nathan only insists he was 'in the right place at the right time' while his friends said of Nathan that he was 'more than a hero' and 'thank G-d for people like him.' It was also an example of one person refusing to 'standby' in a dangerous

situation in order to save 3 families the heartache and loss of loved ones. His poster and story within the exhibition, serve as testimony to the fact that an ordinary person can do extraordinary things! Mr Guy Blay presented the certificate to Nathan.
Ms Claire Hardie from the Multicultural Education Unit (Student Learning Division), Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, praised the exhibition as worthy for all people and stated that her department was extremely happy to be associated with the growth of 'Courage to Care' and its expansion to various regions of Victoria. She thanked the volunteers for their tireless efforts. Ms Hardie's unit also provides funding to 'Courage to Care' as the organisation fits so well within the framework of building capacity to eradicate racism as well as challenging prejudice and ignorance.
The keynote speaker was Professor Andrew Markus (Pratt Foundation Research Professor of Jewish Civilisation, School of Philosophi-

cal, Historical and International Studies at Monash University. Professor Markus gave an enlightening speech, broadening out the concept of 'one person can make a difference' to saying that one can only save their own soul and therefore by joining with others this leaves a message of inspiration to others. He asked: could William Cooper the Aboriginal activist make a difference? Professor Markus said no he could not, however, by his strength of courage and conviction he left a legacy and an example for future generations to speak out against injustice. In the case of the Holocaust, these 'others' became the Righteous among Nations. These same 'righteous' are represented in the humanoids and panels that form the basis of the 'Courage to Care' exhibition. Indeed, room for thought on these comments. It was now time for the official opening by Councillor Jacinta Ermacora, Mayor of Warrnambool. And again, the theme of 'Courage to Care' came through. Ms Ermacora spoke passionately

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of many families within her own community who have been directly affected by racial hatred and ethnic and cultural persecution during World War II. Death and incarceration had affected her children's great grandfather and his brother because both were members of the Dutch underground/Resistance and helped to feed Jewish people in their community. Both were held in Buchenwald for the last 6 months of the war. Unfortunately the brother died on the day of liberation. Jacinta stressed the importance of not just having values but taking action to uphold them. What a fine statement to ponder... Jacinta declared the exhibition open. The Emmanuel College Choir proudly sang 'Breakaway' and this concluded the official opening with great gusto.

Volunteering for Courage to Care

Courage to Care, a travelling exhibition and educational program, aims to inform and educate Australians of the dangers of prejudice and discrimination. It educates visitors, in particular secondary school students, towards an understanding of the roles of victim, perpetrator and bystander by exposing them to survivors of the Holocaust and their rescuers. *Courage to Care* combats bullying and racism by empowering the individual to make a difference. Through powerful presentations, film and discussion the interactive program demonstrates that through mutual support everyone can make a difference.

Courage to Care pays tribute to those individuals who have been designated as '*Righteous among the Nations*', those men and women who risked their lives during the Holocaust to save others. *Courage to Care* is about learning from the past to create a better future. It is a project of B'nai B'rith Victoria.

Volunteers assist in a number of areas including:

- Administration: assisting with correspondence, collating materials, marketing
- Schools: telephone communication with schools to promote programs, school visits to make bookings
- Rostering: assisting with the creation of rosters for the program.
- Logistics: moving, packing and unpacking the exhibition.
- Guiding: trained guides assist students at the exhibition. A good basic knowledge about the Holocaust and *Courage to Care* messages are required, as is an ability to relate to adolescents.
- Facilitating: trained facilitators lead small group discussions with students as part of the program.
- Education: activities include reviewing materials used, analysing results of evaluations, updating the program as required and professional development of volunteers.
- Curating: gathering artefacts to accompany the Exhibition and responsibility for sourcing, storing and displaying items.
- Survivor Speakers: for those who can relate in an articulate manner their or their parents'/grandparents' Holocaust experience with examples of those who showed the '*courage to care*'.
- Evaluation: maintaining suitable evaluation programs.
- Internet/Web: assisting in the development of our on-line website and a dedicated internet based program.
- Fundraising: assisting a team dedicated to raising funds for continuation and growth.
- Forward Planning: a team whose role it is to identify venues for future exhibitions and to make appropriate contacts within those communities such as with schools and the local media.
- Publicity: a team committed to finding means to best publicise the work that is being done.
- Continuity Project:
- Newsletters: assistance with content, production and distribution
- Youth Liaison: helping build bridges with a younger generation of volunteers committed to preserving the stories of the Righteous and the overall aims of *Courage to Care*.
- Volunteer Coordinator: a person dedicated to growing our volunteer database and keeping volunteers happy and motivated.
- Committee: a team committed to coordinating all of the above.

Further information can be obtained from Zoi Juvris, Courage to Care Coordinator.

Courage to Care

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