



# THE **LIFESAVER**

## ***A successful year and a bright future***

This is my first Lifesaver newsletter contribution as President. As we are approaching Rosh Hashanah, our New Year, it is appropriate to consider a recent parsha in which we read about the Mitzvah of Tzedekah, our obligation to give money to charity. In this time of contemplation, we need to remember to help others less fortunate than ourselves.

We just completed our very successful major functions, with around 1000 people attending our Major Donors, Main Event and Young MDA functions. Thank you to everyone who attended; your generous donations enable us to continue our work supplying funding to Magen David Adom in Israel, including purchasing emergency response vehicles, Israel's Blood Bank, and now Israel's Mothers Milk Bank. Your donations continue to save lives 24/7 throughout Israel.

Our entertainer, Elon Gold an internationally acclaimed stand-up comedian, was enthusiastically received at each event.

A special thank you to our Corporate Sponsors whose names appear on our website [www.magendavidadom.org.au](http://www.magendavidadom.org.au), as well as in this newsletter. I encourage you to support our Corporate Sponsors.

I also want to thank everyone who made these functions run smoothly, including our CEO Doron Lazarus, Tamara Lowbeer, Rivkah Lazarus and special help from Tammy Zlattner. From our Board, whilst everyone helped tirelessly, I want to particularly thank Melissa McCurdie, Josh Bolot and Allyson Small, and our MDA Israel liaison, Ido Golan Gutin who recreated an MDA dispatch centre showing the response time between when a call for help comes in, and when an emergency vehicle arrives. Many people took the opportunity to have a photo on our MDA Medicycle, which will be used for MDA's promotional and educational purposes.

During the four year Presidency of my esteemed predecessor, Rolly Nagel, MDA made significant strides, growing from a small organization, to a much larger one with much larger donations enabling us to buy more vehicles and make more of a contribution to MDA in Israel. One of the standouts was to achieve Deductible Gift Recipient status, meaning all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

We are honoured that we have been able to send funds to Israel which have been used to purchase life support ambulances, 4WD ambulances, a bulletproof ambulance, mobile intensive care ambulances, a mini electric fast response vehicle, medicycles,

intercity paramedic motorcycle, e-bikes, an ambulance driver training simulator system together with MDA France, as well as defibrillators, respirators, blood filters, advanced monitors, and numerous other urgently needed medical equipment. Without doubt, these have saved thousands of Israeli lives, as well as reducing their pain, suffering and trauma.

Please continue to help us with your generous donations to enable us to continue this lifesaving work.

This year, in addition to the funds we have raised for the above-mentioned emergency vehicles and medical equipment, we are also very proud to be the sole funder of Israel's first Mothers Milk Bank. Our special guest at our events was Dr Sharron Bransburg-Zabary, the Director of the Milk Bank who explained the rationale behind creating this vital lifesaving service for seriously ill babies.

We have been honoured to have received several sizeable estates from members of our community. Recently, the Estate of the Late John Davis enabled us to present Magen David Adom in Israel with a Mobile Intensive Care Unit ambulance (MICU). These ambulances have specialized lifesaving equipment which can make the difference between life and death.

When writing or updating your Will, please consider including the Australian Friends of Magen David Adom Limited. Your funds will save lives in Israel and your legacy will make a lasting difference and help ensure the safety and health of all Israelis.

On behalf of our Board, I wish you and your families Shanah Tovah Umetukah and G'mar Hatimah Tovah. We pray that the year ahead will be filled with peace for the State of Israel and happiness and good health for all.



Ido Golan Gutin and Tony Ziegler present Roland Nagel with a plaque and photographs of the medicycle donated in honour of his achievements as President

**Tony Ziegler, President**

## MDA Annual Campaign Events 2018

Almost 1000 people attended the campaign events which took place over two nights at Australian Turf Club.

The main communal function 'Big laughs for Little Lives' was held on a cold Sunday night, August 12, 2018 but the atmosphere

inside was warm and inviting. Guests experienced a simulated Emergency Dispatch Centre demonstrated by Ido Golan Gutin who oversees the Australian desk in Israel. The exhibit graphically shows the stages that occur from when a call for assistance is received until help is on the scene.

### President's Supper & Main Event – Big Laughs for Little Lives



Jonathan Glass and Eli Tal



Doron Lazarus, Vic Alhadeff and Peter Wertheim



Dale & Natalie Carr, Rodney & Sharon Naumburger, Leanne & Mark Carr



Julia Levitina, The Hon Walt Secord MLC, Bob & Ruth Magid



Harold Shapiro, Peter Cavanagh Mayor of Woollahra, Allyson Small and Isabelle Shapiro



Jacqui, Tom & Onno Bakker



Josh Bolot, Judy & Roger Kaye



Rob Sperber, Keith Bethlehem and Tony Mitchell



Michael Shur, Caroline & David Lewis



Michael & Kerry Gottlieb and Elon Gold



Mark & Jan Josman, Jonathon & Melissa Green



Kevin Kalinko and Nick Aronson



Nolan Goldstein, Dean Perlman, Rahle & Graham Mendelowitz



Pastor Paul & Joshua Jung



Rivkah Lazarus, Cara-lee Schapiro and Aiden Poswell



Carolyn Ziegler and Sharron Bransburg-Zabary



Victor & Ellen Biggs



Sue Morris, Rebbetzin Fruma Schapiro and Daelene Kopelowitz



Nir Halevi and Jono Herrman



Robyn Weinberg, Pauline Shavit and Clare Palan



Guests could also participate in an interactive experience where they listened to brief testimonies from people whose lives had been saved by MDA.

A fully badged medicycle attracted a lot of attention and guests could be photographed on it.

Dr Sharron Bransburg-Zabary, Director of the Mothers Milk Bank

## Young MDA – Comedy Club

in Israel, which will be funded by the Australian Friends of MDA in NSW, explained how vital mothers milk is to help save the lives of premature babies. Tragically, a premature baby dies in Israel almost every day. The Mothers Milk Bank aims to drastically reduce that number.

Once the serious side of the evening was completed, American comedic sensation, Elon Gold took over with hilarious results.

A good time was had by all and people left the event smiling, having enjoyed the evening.

The following evening, A Comedy Club was a packed event for Young MDA. Elon Gold entertained again and had guests rolling in the aisles.

Thank you to all who attended and supported Magen David Adom in their quest to raise lifesaving funds.





## *Sydney Supporters Visit Magen David Adom in Israel*

Magen David Adom members and supporters visiting Magen David Adom's various locations in Israel had nothing but praise for what they saw.

Like Sue and Joe Rudzyn, from Lindfield who were shown around the Blood Bank in Tel Aviv by Dr Asher Moser, the Deputy Director of Blood Services. In her letter of thanks to Dr Moser, Sue said, "We really enjoyed our tour of the MDA Blood Services and hearing about the Breast Milk Bank. Your enthusiasm and passion were infectious. What an amazing job MDA is performing every day. Keep up the good work .... we are proud to be friends of MDA even if it is in a small way from so far away."

After touring the William H Bloomberg Station in Jerusalem, Garry and Maedinah Hyman were equally enthusiastic in their admiration of MDA's achievements. "Thank you so much for a wonderful and informative tour. We learned so much about the way MDA operates. We can't believe the amount of growth over the years and volume of work which is performed," enthused Garry.

Other visitors included The Cohen Family, Syd & Barbara, Kevin and Lauren and children and Gail & Dave Elivson and children.

If you would like to arrange a **MDA MINI-TOUR in ISRAEL** to see first-hand how MDA operates, meet paramedics and volunteers, please call **Tamara Lowbeer at the MDA office 9358 2521**.



Garry & Maedinah Hyman, Evelynne Cherny and Ido Golan Gutin



Gail & Dave Elivson and children in front of the John & Queenie Davis MICU



Dr Moser explains to Sue & Joe Rudzyn the blood identification procedure at the Blood Bank



The Cohen family views the Jerusalem Dispatch Centre

## *Jonathon Green's observations of stellar service*

Driving at high speed around Tel Aviv in an ambulance is an experience Melissa and I will never forget.

When I joined the Board of Australian Friends of Magen David Adom last year I was keen to support a wonderful Israeli service with a stellar reputation for saving lives and caring for anyone who needs emergency medical attention. Seeing it together for ourselves was truly enlightening.

On our shift was a Muslim Israeli driver who is a medic and took primary care of patients when we arrived on the scene. A great guy who has five languages and a terrific sense of humour, especially about the occasional intolerant patient who was not too keen on being helped by an Arab! He laughs it off

and gets on with his vital job of saving lives.

He was supported by two strong, capable young Jewish women (16 and 17 years old) who have done 4 months training and who volunteer their service. They were professional, smart and focussed belying their years. Yet they still giggled like school girls, checking their phones when they had a moment of rest after patients were safely dropped at hospital.

We saw 8 or 9 cases (thankfully nothing too gruesome) on our shift and they were all handled with intimate care and dedication by the entire crew.

This was unforgettable and truly made me proud to be a supporter and a Board Member of Australian Friends of Magen David Adom.



Jonathon Green, foreground, in the back of the ambulance with the medic and volunteers

## Gabrielle Upton Visits MDA Israel

The Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for the Environment, Heritage & Local Government, Member for Vaucluse who was visiting Israel as part of the Australia Israel Chamber of Commerce's Women leaders trade mission toured the William H Bloomberg Station in Jerusalem.

"Former Magen David Adom NSW Chair Roland Nagel hosted me for a morning at Magen David Adom in Jerusalem – which is such an essential non-government service in Israel. I got to see the extraordinary generosity of the NSW community expressed through their donations of vehicles crucial to their efforts. These yellow and white bikes and trucks are able to nimbly dodge through the streets helping to save lives in record time," Minister Upton said.

For Gabrielle Upton the opportunity to have a behind the scenes insight of MDA, to understand the day to day challenges of running the lifesaving organisation, reinforced her overall impressions of Israel as an amazing nation of reliant people.



Gabrielle Upton MP stands with Roland Nagel in front of the ambulance donated in memory of David Ratner

## Experiences of the Overseas Volunteers Program

In May this year I completed the First Aid Course for young overseas volunteers which I can recommend for anyone willing to put themselves out of their comfort zone!

I came to Israel not knowing anyone, the language or the culture. As a pro-Israel Christian I found it fascinating learning about the Jewish faith and its many traditions.

For ten days we lived with other international course members learning from 8:30am until 8:30pm, so we really got to know one another.

The course was extremely informative, teaching us a variety of first aid techniques from basic life-support through to preparing us to treat patients in mass casualty situations. At the end of the ten day training, I qualified as a first aid responder with loads of new friends, an ideal way to begin the five week volunteering period!

On shift, as volunteers, we became the third-responder on the ambulance attending all calls no matter what ethnic background or religion. There was always the possibility of life-threatening situations but we were thankful that was not often the case. We routinely checked the vital signs of our patients and in more serious cases cleaning and bandaging wounds was also done. I will never forget performing CPR on two elderly patients resuscitating one, but unfortunately the other passed away. It was encouraging to know, that after such an incident, there was always someone to talk to if I was troubled. Such help was not only available from the crew members, but also from the strong MDA support network from the program.

Reflecting on the course, it certainly did prepare us for the majority of experiences we would encounter. I really recommend this volunteer experience to any young person -



Tom Bakker takes time out after a busy shift

everyone is always made to feel welcome. If you are motivated you will get a huge amount out of the experience. You are given total independence in organising your shifts and travelling from your accommodation to the MDA station. No matter what the situation, there is always something you can do if you are proactive and take the initiative!

*By Tom Bakker*

*If you or someone you know is interested in participating in the Overseas Volunteer Program, please refer to the website, [www.magendavidadom.org.au](http://www.magendavidadom.org.au) or phone the MDA office on 9358 2521.*

## Tzedakah – never too young to give

Tzedakah is one of the tenets of the Jewish religion, it is something we are taught to do from an early age, to give for those who are in need. Noa (3 1/2) and Alon (2) Lipschitz recently visited the MDA office to hand in their Tzedakah money.

The Magen David Adom tzedakah box has colourful action photos depicting typical MDA scenes and it is FREE. Children love them and adults can help to fill them.

Please call the MDA office on 9358 2521 for a new box or to arrange for the collection and replacement of a full one.

Boxes can also be placed in businesses and shops. Anyone wishing to acquire a box for their business is asked to contact the MDA office. Tap machines are also available on request.



Noa and Alon Lipschitz give their Tzedakah money to Rivkah Lazarus



## Certificates in lieu of Gifts

A beautiful way to link a Simcha with Magen David Adom's lifesaving work is to provide your family and friends with an opportunity to purchase a certificate in lieu of gifts.

Donations will assist us with the purchase of emergency vehicles and vital lifesaving equipment.

Memorial donations can also be acknowledged in the same way.

Since the Pesach issue of the **LIFESAVER**, the following people have been honoured in this special way.

### **BNEI MITZVAH**

Talya Batya Engelberg  
Max Feilich  
Harrison Fischl  
Henry Kozlovsky  
Zachary Raiz  
Miki Sterling

### **FOR BIRTHDAYS**

#### **3rd**

Zac Temple

#### **40th**

Yuval Illuz  
Ilan Lowbeer

#### **50th**

Alon Bernstein  
Howard Marks  
Tessa Rohald  
Julia Singer

#### **60th**

Richard Cohen  
Colin Krost  
Robert Sonnenschein

#### **70th**

Karen Flior

#### **80th**

Paulette Goldberg  
Ian Kern  
Leila Langman  
Paul Olbourne  
Sam Piller  
Jack Rosen  
Ruth Rosen

#### **90th**

Lilian Berley  
Shimon Hersh  
Helmut Heydt

Percy Tucker  
Myer Zulaikha

### **Other Birthdays**

Yola Center  
Ronny Fendel  
Bernice Finkelstein  
Ros Mowszowski  
Ivan Nurick  
Lulu Varejes  
Sarah Varejes

### **OTHER CERTIFICATES**

#### **Engagement**

Ryan & Sacha

#### **Wedding**

Hilary May Black & Gary  
Elsass

#### **Anniversaries**

##### **30th**

Ariane & Mark Schneider

##### **50th**

Lawrence & Kay Scheckter

#### **Congratulations**

Ian Kern for PhD  
Roberta Goot for OAM

### **Thanks**

Rabbi Aryeh Solomon  
Sue Szekely

### **Pesach wishes and hospitality**

Gabby & Robyn Bloom  
Kassie Grinblatt  
Harold & Bertha  
Phil & Gloria Silver

### **In Memory**

Robert Falk



Family and friends were delighted to join Miki Sterling when he stepped up to the Bimah to celebrate his Barmitzva. Donations were requested for MDA. Thank you and a hearty mazal tov. Miki, centre back, is seen with his wife Agi and family.



Kalookie players Marian Appel (seated), Cynthia Goodman, Connie Sher and Elna Fletcher meet regularly in each other's homes to enjoy a game of cards and each other's company. They donate their winnings to Magen David Adom. Thank you ladies.

Choose from Traditional or Modern designs

Requesting an MDA gift certificate, e-certificate or card couldn't be easier. You can

- Go online to [www.magendavidadom.org.au](http://www.magendavidadom.org.au)
- Phone the MDA office 9358 2521
- Email [admin@magendavidadom.org.au](mailto:admin@magendavidadom.org.au)
- Post cheque to PO Box 293, Edgecliff NSW 2027



## A Remarkable Life – John Davis 1906-2008

John George Davis was born in Sydney on August 7, 1906. His early life was spent in Mosman where he was educated at Mosman Public School.

His father was a wholesale merchant and at 14 John joined the business to earn 10/- (\$1) a week from which he had to pay fares to work and had to obey his father's order to make a monthly donation of 2/- (20c) to help those in need, which he told friends "was my first introduction to charity".

He quit working for his father after three years, but his life was upset when his mother passed away that year. When his father remarried, John left home, surviving by selling vacuum cleaners door-to-door.

It was at this time in his early life that he decided to start his own business going from shop to shop, buying as many small items as he could and reselling them at 'wholesale prices'.

Come 1939 and with it World War II, John received his call-up papers during 1941. Soon after, he met and married Queenie, whose given name was Viva Slutzkin.

In 1942 when the US Army took over the Grace Buildings where he had his small but flourishing business, John purchased a duplex at Bondi. It was the start of his property 'empire'.

Soon after, he purchased land in Blacktown on which he built 12 shops, one of which was to be the delicatessen owned by Frank Lowy and John Saunders, the founders of the Westfield Shopping Centres. Over the years John Davis would tell how he advised Lowy and Saunders about property before they started Westfield Holdings.

John then purchased land in Caringbah and built 27 shops. In 1946 he acquired land at Potts point for a nine-storey building, part of which was to provide a home for him and Queenie for many decades.

With no children of their own, John and Queenie sponsored a young Survivor of the Nazi Holocaust, Leon Wise.

At 83 years of age he decided to retire from the wholesale business but continued his property investments.

John and his wife Viva were long-time members of the Great Synagogue. He was an office bearer at the Lodge Mark Owen at Double Bay and a much loved-member of the Double Bay Bowling Club.

After 62 years of marriage, Queenie died following more than two years of illness. Soon after, John went on holiday to Cairns, finding it a lovely town and ideal for property investments, including a winter home for himself on the Esplanade, where he peacefully passed away on January 14, 2008.

*By Peter Wayne, Lawyer*



John & Queenie Davis

*A fully equipped mobile intensive care ambulance, MICU was purchased thanks to John Davis' generosity and forethought and is based at the National Medical Dispatch Centre in Tel Aviv. Anyone wishing to advise that they have left a bequest in their Will or to find out how they can leave a gift in their Wills should contact Tamara Lowbeer on 9358 2521 or 0413 084 994 in full confidentiality.*

## MDA Launches First Aid Training for Youth

Many people know Magen David Adom for the lifesaving services they provide in Israel but closer to home, in Australia, we face situations where family, friends and colleagues experience an accident or serious medical emergency. Would you know what to do in that situation?

Magen David Adom understands just how important the right knowledge and training is when responding to any medical situation, no matter how minor or serious. To meet this need, MDA has launched its Medical Response, Safety and First Aid Training programs designed for school students aged between 12-16.



Practising CPR on a dummy

The courses can cover the very basics – choking, fractures, bites or certified CPR training.

CEO of MDA in NSW, Doron Lazarus commented, "Each and every day MDA saves lives. We are committed to ensuring that we not only provide funding for vital emergency services in Israel but that we contribute to the welfare of our local community. It could make all the difference."

A number of courses have already been conducted with great success. Vivienne Radomsky, Project Manager B'nai B'rith NSW who organized a group ranging in ages from 10-15 said, "it was fantastic, the children were really engaged and loved it. The trainer was on top of things, he kept them busy and occupied the whole time."

For more information and bookings please contact Rivkah Lazarus on (02) 9358 2521 or email [events@magendavidadom.org.au](mailto:events@magendavidadom.org.au).

## With thanks to our Corporate Sponsors 2018/2019

The generosity of our Corporate Sponsors allowed us to offset the majority of the costs of our fundraising events. This means we distributed most, if not all, of the funds raised, directly to MDA Israel.



Do you want to promote your brand to our loyal supporter base while helping MDA to save lives in Israel ?  
Then please contact Doron Lazarus on (02) 9358 2521 for more information on becoming a Corporate Sponsor.

## MDA NSW – Our People

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