



THE LIFESAVER

Your Membership helps to shine a Light on Saving Lives

As Chanukah approaches, we again remember the miracles of the Maccabees, the victory of light over dark, and how this drives our everyday lifesaving mission at MDA, which is enabled by your generous donations.

Our recent sold out Movie Night was a very special and poignant evening just a few days after the tragic passing of JBOD past President Jeremy Spinak, at age 36, leaving behind his wife and one year old twins. He will be sorely missed by our community and all who knew him. Your Board has dedicated the next MDA medicycle in Israel in his name.



Membership to MDA is a partnership in saving lives

With this edition we enclose your annual membership renewal. Your membership is a partnership in MDA's lifesaving work in Israel. It is a link in the chain of solidarity with Magen David Adom and the vital role it performs 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Your membership of MDA will help ensure that Magen

David Adom is able to fulfil its mission of saving lives, remaining at all times, Israel's second line of defence.

Some of the benefits include discounts on entry to many of our events, as well as free MDA ambulance travel in the unlikely event you may need it on your visits to Israel. Please fill in your membership renewal and post, complete online, email admin@magendavidadom.org.au or call our office 02 9358 2521.

Thank you for attending our events throughout the year and the donations you have made. You have enabled us to send urgently needed funds to MDA in Israel to purchase medicycles, ambulances, and other critical lifesaving medical supplies. We have also funded Israel's first Human Milk Bank, which will provide babies, especially premature babies, mother's breast milk when their own mother is unable to supply it. Remember, all donations over \$2 are fully tax deductible.

Our Sponsors are very special benefactors who donate generously to our cause. We deeply appreciate their sponsorship of MDA and our events. Please see their brands in this newsletter. We urge you to support our Sponsors.

Young MDA is our future. Many have participated in volunteer programs at MDA Israel. We need you all to stay involved with MDA and remember the great cause and work of MDA.

Bequests are a special way of providing for the needs of Israel into the future. Please remember the Australian Friends of Magen David Adom Ltd in your Will. If you need any assistance or would like to discuss it, please call Tamara at our office 02 9358 2521 or complete the confidential Wills card included in this mailing.

Your Board has worked very hard this year, as always, and given me great support; our co-Vice-Presidents Melissa McCurdie and Nick Aronson, our Hon. Treasurer Peter Sheldon, Hon. Secretary Cara-lee Schapiro, and Dr Billie Whiteson Glass, Allyson Small, Josh Bolot, Nolan Goldstein, Jonathon Green and Mark Josman. We are all involved in businesses, jobs, schools, other community activities, and of course our families. I appreciate and thank each of our Board for dedicating a significant amount of time out of their hectic lives to help Magen David Adom raise much needed funds to help save lives in Israel.

Our office team have been very effective and efficient, and wonderful ambassadors for MDA. Special thanks to our CEO Doron Lazarus, Tamara Lowbeer and Rivkah Lazarus.

In 2019 we will redouble our efforts to provide the material wherewithal for Magen David Adom to continue saving lives in Israel. Please continue to help us on our journey with the great Mitzvah of Tzedakah by donating much needed funds to Magen David Adom. When in Israel, please visit our facilities, consider an observer shift in our ambulances, and see where your money is going to and how you are actually saving lives every day.

Chag Chanukah Sameach. May Chanukah also bring us hope, happiness, health and peace for us and all Israel.

Tony Ziegler, President

'The Mossad, Imperfect Spies' - MDA Movie Night 2018

Over 230 supporters of Australian Friends Magen David Adom once again filled the cinema at Westfield on Wednesday 21 November for the Annual MDA Movie Night.

Attendees viewed 'The Mossad, Imperfect Spies' which provided a rare insight into Israel's foreign intelligence agency, which was almost completely sealed off to the media. For the first time, dozens of its former operatives agreed to be interviewed. These rare interviews bring to light personal and political dilemmas and challenges and formed an account of the top-secret operations that have shaped Israel's past and may yet shape its future.

Melissa McCurdie, Vice President, started the evening with some heartfelt words about Jeremy Spinak, former President of Jewish Board

of Deputies, who sadly passed away just days before, aged 36.

Tony Ziegler, President provided an overview of MDA's recent activities including the lifesaving services provided during the barrage of terror rockets which were fired upon Israeli citizens over the weeks prior. He also announced that, in recognition of Jeremy's commitment to the Sydney Jewish and wider community, funds raised on the night will be used to purchase an emergency first responder medicycle, to be named in Jeremy's honour.

There was a raffle on the night with a wide range of generous prizes and we extend our thanks to our sponsors who provided the gifts and refreshments on the night.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

- 1st - Jennine Newman - Leather handbag Valued \$400 donated by Len Milner- Sak
- 2nd - Vivien Olian - Fully equipped First Aid Kit donated by MDA
- 3rd - Russell Lazarus - Bondi Pizza Dining Voucher \$100 donated by Glen Lees – Bondi Pizza
- 4th - Diane Vesely - Bondi Pizza Dining Voucher \$100 donated by Glen Lees – Bondi Pizza
- 5th - Taryn Boyarsky - Coffee Table Books (2) donated by Hedley & Zara Gordon - Book Review
- 6th - Ron Sekel - Dreambaby voucher \$100 donated by Tony & Carolyn Ziegler - Dreambaby
- 7th - Alan Greenstein - Hamsa Bracelet donated by Anon



First prize winner of raffle, Jennine Newman

Snacks were provided by Mighty Bellies.

We thank everyone for their attendance and support making the evening a great success.



Billie & Sophie Whiteson Glass and Jonathan Glass



Michelle & Daniel Tracton



Gallit Taub, Sheila Lazarus and Megan Bernitz



Wendy & Darron Lonstein



Hannah Balkin



Evelyn Tobin and Clara Donna Ezekiel



Ben Fischl and Michelle Fischl

Certificates & Donations in lieu of gifts

A beautiful way to link a Simcha with Magen David Adom's lifesaving work is to consider asking your family and friends to make a donation, which will help save lives every day, instead of giving a gift. The person you are honouring will receive an attractive gift certificate containing your personal message.

The proceeds will go towards emergency vehicles and lifesaving equipment.

Everyone benefits. Memorial donations can also be acknowledged in the same way.

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



B'NOT MITZVAH

Eve Bejet
Marley Whitcombe

FOR BIRTHDAYS

40th

Jared Balkin
Leah Balkin

60th

Ian Geller
Bernard Lieberfreund
Debra Marks
Nick Mourmouris
Jonny Stein
Carolyn Ziegler

70th

Evelynne Cherny
Brenda Cohen
Peter Levy
Gail Romain
Malcolm Sender
Deidre Wainrit

80th

Bert Akres
Riva Tworetzky

85th

Freda Freiberg

90th

Fred Sarif
Queenie Weiner

Other Birthdays

Linda Enoch
Mervyn Felsher
Anne Gamerov
Rona Hersov
Gerald Johnson
Stephen Scholem
Eric Wegman



After Evelynne Cherny, second from right, toured the Bloomberg Station earlier this year she was so impressed that she requested donations to MDA for her 70th birthday. She is with Garry & Maedinah Hyman and Ido Golan Gutin. Kol hakavod.



MDA Book Club continues to meet regularly. Contact co-ordinator Jeanie Kitchener on 0409 363 232 if you are interested in joining. Seen in the photo taken at their last meeting: *Front row L-R: Gina Stern, Diane Seeto, Judy Doobov* *Back row L-R: Jeanie Kitchener, Renee Pinshaw, Margaret Weiss*

OTHER CERTIFICATES

Engagement

Dani Hosiofsky & Ben Filler

Wedding Vows

Michelle & Warren Radnan

Anniversaries

60th

Dorothy & Norm Green
Harold & Thelma Sher

Rosh Hashanah Greetings

Isman Family
Geoff & Debbie Levy
Schratz Family

Thanks

Charles & Vivienne Beck
MDA Book Club
Phil & Gloria Silver

In Memory

Gunter Gaspar

Thank you Carolyn

Just recently, Carolyn Ziegler, the wife of MDA President, Tony Ziegler, requested that guests donate to Magen David Adom for her 60th birthday. This simple gesture raised almost \$5000, which will go directly to assisting us with the purchase of emergency vehicles and other lifesaving equipment.

If you wish to link your simcha with MDA, as Carolyn did, the MDA office will provide you with everything you need to make it simple and easy for you.

They will set up your own customised webpage with your personal message as well as a donation link to send directly to your guests.

For more information please contact Rivkah Lazarus on (02) 9358 2521 or events@magendavidadom.org.au



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.

MDA Medicycle in our Schools

Australian Friends of Magen David Adom has recently created their very own first responder medicycle, an exact replica of the ones used in Israel.

The medicycle has been touring local schools and community events, helping to showcase the vital work of MDA in Israel. Recently the medicycle was at the Moriah College and Bellevue Hill Public School Fairs. The students were absolutely thrilled to have the opportunity to sit on the bike and pretend to be an MDA paramedic or dedicated volunteer.

To arrange a medicycle visit please contact Rivkah Lazarus on (02) 9358 2521 or events@magendavidadom.org.au



