



Women's International
Zionist Organization

WIZO

QUEENSLAND

Doing what matters

Newsletter

June 2025

Sponsor a
Child in Israel



MAIN CONTENT

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK – P3

QUEENSLAND'S NEW PROJECT – P4

MESSAGE REGARDING RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN
ISRAEL FOR WORLD WIZO – P5

ANTI-ZIONISM – P6

ISRAEL NEWS – P8

LATEST EVENTS – P9

COMING EVENTS – P11

CHRISTIAN SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL – P13

WIZO MEMBERSHIP AND DONATIONS – P14

WIZO QUEENSLAND

PRESIDENT

Sylvia Lipski



sylvialipski@gmail.com



0417 788 449

TREASURER

Susan Segal



treasurer.wizoqld@gmail.com



0421 018 209

VICE PRESIDENT AND WIZO
GOLD COAST

Luana Goriss



lgoriss@bigpond.net.au



0466 548 625

WIZO QLD POSTAL ADDRESS

PO Box 613 Oxenford Q 4210

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Shalom Chaverot!

On May 17th and 18th, I attended the WIZO Australia Triennial Conference for 2025.

The Conference was a wonderful coming together with WIZO ladies from all over Australia, to connect, collaborate, inspire and exchange experiences and ideas to benefit our important causes and campaigns.

It was a powerful and inspiring weekend. Key speakers included author Alex Ryvchin, Rolene Marks – World WIZO, Israel, and Adrian Falk - Founder & Director of Believe Advertising.

OPERATION RISING LION – THE REPERCUSSIONS ARE ONGOING

As we still anxiously await the release of our 53 hostages in Gaza, we are in crisis yet again. Marking one of the most significant Military Engagements between Israel and Iran in recent decades, Israel has launched ‘Operation Rising Lion’. WIZO Queensland is joining and engaging in this emergency appeal.



In these critical days for Israel, as Operation Rising Lion unfolds, we are witnessing unprecedented times and unimaginable hardship for countless families, women, and children across the country. With every siren, every news alert and every loss, lives are being torn apart and the need for immediate support has never been more urgent.

Prime Minister Netanyahu has articulated that the operation aims to neutralise existential threats from Iran’s nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, threatening our very existence. In the past few days, Israel, together with the USA, has obliterated three nuclear sites in Iran.

In times of crisis, WIZO does not pause. Please support ‘Operation Rising Lion’ by making your tax-deductible donation to:

WIZO Queensland

BSB: 484799

Account: 000152145

Please enter your deposit with your name and Rising Lion.

QUEENSLAND'S NEW PROJECT BEGINS JULY 2025

Our new Queensland Project, beginning in July, is *Beit Pa'amonim*. The Project is in memory of Ariel and Kfir Bibas, who were brutally murdered in Gaza.



Beit Pa'amonim is Israel's sole specialized transition facility that provides life-saving care and a secure environment for dispossessed newborns and toddlers. *Beit Pa'amonim* offers tailored care plans developed by a multidisciplinary team incorporating therapeutic interventions and life story documentation, to support smooth transitions to adoptive families. The location of the centre, the identity of the infants and other details are kept strictly confidential for the safety and dignity of the mothers and babies.

All donations toward this Project will go directly to Israel.

LAUGHTER... THE BEST MEDICINE

He who laughs last, didn't get it

Issy and Howard were brothers disliked by the entire community. They ran a crooked business, they lied and they cheated the poor. But they were also very, very wealthy.

When Issy died, Howard went to Rabbi Bloom and said, "I will donate one million dollars to the synagogue if at the funeral you say that my brother Issy was a mensch."

The Rabbi thought long and hard, but eventually agreed.

When it came time for the funeral, the Rabbi recounted Issy's wrong doings during his eulogy at length. He then closed with the sentence: "But, compared to his brother, he was a mensch."

Message Regarding Recent Developments in Israel

Anat Vidor – President World WIZO

Dear WIZO members, our partners around the world,

Significant days are passing over the Middle East and upon us. The State of Israel is launching a bold pre-emptive strike thousands of kilometres from home, with the goal of defeating the head of the snake that has been disrupting our lives for many years and approaching the capability to threaten our very existence.

We did not wait for sympathy; we did not ask for help. We rose with strength to change the world and save it. Do not test a nation of lions, do not underestimate a people forged from slavery, exile, and the Holocaust.

"Behold, a people that rises like a lioness and lifts itself like a lion; it does not lie down until it devours prey and drinks the blood of the slain." (Numbers 23:24)

For our lives and our future we fight, but also for the benefit of the entire world, which cannot afford a terrorist state becoming nuclear and spreading weapons of mass destruction. Despite the global importance, it is Israel that bears on its shoulders and with pride, this great responsibility and historical mission.

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Alongside our allies in the world whose contribution is significant, it is Israeli society that now shines far and wide in its finest hour. The pilots, the researchers and intelligence personnel, the scientists, the high-tech professionals, the intelligence operatives, the field forces of sea and air - they are all our daughters and sons, friends, neighbors... all the products of a strong, quality society that has

created for itself a marked superiority, technological and moral, over all other countries in the region.

And we in WIZO have an important part in this: it is for testing times like these we labor and invest, raising with love generations of talented youth, placing in their hands the tools to succeed and soar to personal fulfillment, and to feelings of national belonging and responsibility.

I have no doubt that every day and every hour brings us closer to achieving all our objectives, and to removing the Iranian threat from upon us. Thank you all, my friends, for your concern for our welfare, for the solidarity and for the willingness to help. The knowledge that we are all together - strengthens especially in these days.

With wishes for days of peace and good tidings for all of us. May the Lord give strength to His people, may the Lord bless His people with peace.

Anti-Zionism

Luana Goriss

Anti-Zionism has become the most dangerous and effective form of antisemitism in our time, through its systematic delegitimization, defamation, and demonization of Israel.

-Robert Wistrich

Since the re-establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, antisemitism manifested a fourth characteristic – *anti-Zionism*. Anti-Zionism is unique only in one way - it is the first form of Jew hatred to deny that it hates Jews.

In order to hide their antisemitism, enemies of the Jews nearly always use the word ‘Zionist’ when they really mean ‘Jew’. But to deny the Jewish people their right to Israel as a homeland is to deny their very existence. If the State of Israel existed during the Nazi regime, Jews could have sought refuge in their own homeland. Israel was not created because of the Holocaust. The Holocaust happened because Israel did not exist.

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In every aspect, there is no difference between antisemitism and the denial of Israel's statehood. Classical antisemitism denies the equal rights of Jews as citizens within society. Anti-Zionism denies the equal rights of Jews and their lawful sovereignty as a Jewish nation within the community of nations.

Because Zionism espouses an independent and sovereign Jewish State, Israel is systematically harassed at international forums, such as the United Nations, where the Arab states have for decades pursued a policy of isolating the Jewish state and turning it into a pariah. Since October 7, 2023, this demonization and delegitimization of Israel has gained momentum, even in Western countries.

Anti-Zionism has become the most dangerous and effective form of Jew hatred, because it denies the evident existence of 3500 years of Jewish history in the Jewish historical homeland.

Like any other country, criticism of Israel, its leaders, government and policies is legitimate. But unlike other countries, criticism of Israel evolves into whether Israel has the right to exist. Given that the Jewish state is the only place where Jews have been able to exercise self-determination and self-defence in over two thousand years, the sovereignty of the Jewish State and its right to defend itself, is not negotiable.

Much of the mobilizing power of anti-Zionism derives from its link to the ‘Palestinian cause’. Since 1964, the PLO, founded by Yasser Arafat, has worked constantly to demonize Zionism and the Jewish State. Then, in 1968, the Palestinian Nation Charter was created, a reflection of the Hamas Covenant, calling for Israel’s elimination through jihad.

The Palestinian National Charter is anti-Jewish and anti-Zionist in its entirety. An example is in the following Articles:

Article 4

The Palestinian identity is a genuine, essential, and inherent characteristic; it is transmitted from parents to children. The Zionist occupation and the dispersal of the Palestinian Arab people, through the disasters which befell them, do not make them lose their Palestinian identity and their membership in the Palestinian community, nor do they negate them.

Article 15

The liberation of Palestine, from an Arab viewpoint, is a national duty; it attempts to repel the Zionist and imperialist aggression against the Arab homeland and aims at the elimination of Zionism in Palestine.

The Hamas Covenant is also entirely anti-Jewish and anti-Zionist. Examples are in the following Articles:

Article 1

The Islamic Resistance Movement is one of the links in the chain of the struggle against the Zionist invaders. It goes back to 1939, to the emergence of the... Moslem Brotherhood. It goes on to reach out and become one with another chain that includes the struggle of the Palestinians and Moslem Brotherhood in the 1948 war and the Jihad operations of the Moslem Brotherhood in 1968 and after.

Article 28

The Zionist invasion is a vicious invasion. It does not refrain from resorting to all methods, using all evil and contemptible ways to achieve its end. It relies greatly in its infiltration and espionage operations on the secret organizations it gave rise to, such as the Freemasons, the Rotary and Lions clubs and other sabotage groups. All these organizations, whether secret or open, work in the interest of Zionism and according to its instructions. They aim at undermining societies, destroying values, corrupting consciences, deteriorating character and annihilating Islam... Arab countries surrounding Israel are asked to open their borders to the fighters from among the Arab and Islamic nations, so that they could consolidate their efforts with those of their Moslem brethren in Palestine.

Anti Zionists claim that the Jewish State has given rise to discrimination against 'Palestinian refugees' and the support of a 'Palestinian State'. This would mean that to all 'Palestinians' (who are not Israeli citizens) and their descendants (now approximately 14 million), should be given the right of return to 'Palestine'. As Israel's current population is around nine million Jews, the return of 'Palestinians' would end Israel's Jewish majority and status as a Jewish State.

“With cunning they conspire against your people; they plot against those you cherish. Come,” they say, “let us destroy them as a nation, so that Israel’s name is remembered no more. With one mind they plot together; they form an alliance against you—the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, of Moab and the Hagrites, Byblos, Ammon and Amalek, Philistia, with the people of Tyre.” Psalm 83:4

Anti-Zionism has become the most dangerous and effective form of Jew hatred, because it denies the evident existence of 3500 years of Jewish history in the Jewish historical homeland: the sovereignty of Jerusalem as Israel’s undivided capital; the sovereignty of Judea and Samaria as Israel’s undivided heartland; and the Jewish sovereignty over the Golan and Gaza.

Israel ישראל News



The war between Iran and Israel has paused but not ended. Do not mistake quiet for resolution. The roots of the Iran-Israel June War are not related to geopolitics; Iran and Israel don’t have any territorial dispute. The roots are ideological (supporting the Palestinians and the destruction of Israel), which guarantees that more conflict lies ahead.



The Islamic Republic is not a normal state seeking security; it is a revolutionary regime that sees survival and regional domination as inseparable from its hard power arsenal. So, containment may manage symptoms, but it cannot address the root cause.

That root cause is the regime itself. Iran’s nuclear program is not a policy misstep; it is a pillar of the Islamic Republic’s strategy. Any effort to truly eliminate the threat must focus on transforming the regime’s political character. And that’s precisely why the ceasefire is unlikely to last.

This is the amazing Julie Rose who recently received the WIZO QLD *Woman of Valour* Award.

Julie is the person who paints all the glassware many of you have purchased. What an incredible gesture of love. We thank her for her passion, commitment and excellent work!



LATEST EVENTS

THE WIZO AUSTRALIA TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE FOR 2025 - MAY 17 and 18

Sylvia and Jenny Rosman



Adrian Falk



Alex Rivchin



GOLD COAST JUNE EVENT – COME GRAZE WITH ME

On June 8 we launched our *Sponsor a Child* fundraiser on the Gold Coast. A fantastic evening with a turnout of 83 people! Thanks to the wonderful WIZO Gold Coast committee for all your hard work. Thank you, Maree, for hosting the event! Some of our Gold Coast Committee (GCC) and pics from the night ↓

GCC members. From left to right (top) Pauline Posner, Luana Goriss (VP WIZO QLD), Ilana Paris, Sorrel Shulman.



Sylvia Lipsky (Pres WIZO QLD), Maree Katransky-Wray (GCC).



Dina Leibovize (GCC)



Felicia Godwin (GCC)



Jackie Gold and Natalie Bloom (GCC)



Michelle Marks – left (GCC)



Judi Shilton, Evelyn Charles, Sylvia Lipsky (members of WIZO QLD Executive)



Gayle Wrangmore - left (Brisbane Committee)



Magician Michael Ricketts. Fantastic!



UP COMING EVENTS

ON THE KOKODA TRACK WITH ROSS MCKIVER

Sunday 20 July
at 2pm
\$25 includes
Afternoon tea



You're invited to come and hear Trekking Guide, Ross McKiver, on the Kokoda Track. Ross is passionate about history, mateship and youth development. During the 90's, Ross served in the Army and later spent 12 years as a police officer.

RSVP by 11 July 2025
for the full address in Rochedale;
Evelyn: 0402810191 evelyncharles7@gmail.com
Sylvia: 0417788449 sylvialipski@gmail.com
Chris: 0432518135 cbell4100@gmail.com



WOMEN'S
INTERNATIONAL ZIONIST
ORGANIZATION

WIZO QUEENSLAND INVITES YOU...

to be entertained by fabulous artists!

DATE: On Sunday 24 August at
2:00pm.

VENUE: Coorparoo. Location to be
advised via RSVP by 20/08/25 to:

- Evelyn: 0402810191
evelyncharles7@gmail.com
- Christine: 0432518135
cbell4100@gmail.com
- Sylvia: 0417788449
sylvialipski@gmail.com

COST: \$30:00 per adult

Children free

Scrumptious High Tea included

Israeli dancing

Amazing concert venue!



PAYMENT

Please deposit payment of \$30:00 p/p into:

WIZO Queensland (Suncorp Account)

BSB: 484799

Account: 000152145

Include your name and 'Dance' as reference.

CHRISTIAN SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL

Why I am a Zionist

By Glenice Mills

Member of WIZO Queensland

Why I am a Zionist is a profound question. As I have been thinking on this, I realize that it has been a process forged over many years.

I have always said I am pro-Israel, however, to call myself a Zionist has been a deeper revelation. I am writing this from both a personal as well as Spiritual perspective. I have a fierce hatred of oppression and injustice, including against those who would sow lies against the Jews and their right to live in their land of Israel. It is a God given fire on the inside of me that will not leave, particularly when I see the persecution against God's chosen people and the war they should not have to fight to stay on the land that is rightfully theirs, the land of Israel.

So how has this come about? Interestingly over thirty years ago I began reading books on the Holocaust and autobiographies by survivors of the Holocaust. Every time I read these books I would ask myself what would I have done if I had been living during this time? Would I have been in the resistance, hidden a Jew, or quietly sat by and done nothing? Never would I have believed that I am now asking myself this same question many decades later! Can I sit back and do nothing? Absolutely NOT!

As a Christian minister and leader of a women's ministry, it is imperative that I make a stand against this anti-Semitism, anti-Zionist hatred of God's chosen people. If I remain silent then I am complicit. It is crucial I talk with fellow Christians and share the importance of standing with and supporting Israel.

“In those days ten people from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe and say, ‘Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you.’” - Zechariah 8:23

I have wanted to come alongside and align with Jewish women and I was blessed to meet a leader of WIZO recently and have since joined this organization. I have a responsibility to stand with, love and support you and I look forward to what plans are ahead for us all.

Blessings

Glenice Mills

BECOME A MEMBER OF WIZO QUEENSLAND

By becoming a member of WIZO, you become part of 250,000 Zionist women worldwide. In Israel, WIZO has the highest rating for accountability among charitable organizations. We support one out of four Israel citizens and are the NUMBER ONE welfare agency, after the Israeli Government.

For a mere \$40.00 per year, you can stay connected via membership with all that is going on in WIZO Queensland. You will also receive our Queensland Newsletter, which you are reading right now, every two months. The Newsletter, as you can see, is filled with upcoming events, articles, photos and everything that goes on in the world of WIZO and current Israel news.

Below is a membership form and bank details for an easy direct deposit. Just put your name and 'Membership' in the details. Or take a screenshot of the form with your details and email to treasurer.wizoqld@gmail.com

ANYONE WHO SUPPORTS ISRAEL CAN BE A MEMBER!

MEMBERSHIP FORM			
Name			
Address	Post Code.....		
Phone			
Email.....			
Preferred method of contact (tick box)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phone/SMS	<input type="checkbox"/> Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Post
BANK DETAILS			
WIZO QLD			
BSB: 484799			
ACCOUNT: 000152145			

DONATION TOWARD PROJECTS FORM	
DONATIONS ARE TAX DETUCTIBLE. TDR: 55613639008	
Please choose a Project. Payment details same as above.	
<input type="checkbox"/> SPONSOR A CHILD IN ISRAEL	<input type="checkbox"/> OPERATION RISING LION EMERGENCY APPEAL
Please email treasurer.wizoqld@gmail.com for a tax deductible receipt.	