

# SpewishCare My Community. My Choice. CIRCLE OF CARE CIRCLE OF CAR



Issue 2 - June 2016

A publication of Jewish Care's Circle of Care



Norma Beaconsfield, Maurice Smith, Lyndall Rosengarten, Kay Raymond and Lisa Smith sharing fond memories of Rookie Smith z'l, and Egon and Lily Weis z'l at the recently opened The Coppel & Piekarski Family Disability Respite Centre.

#### **COMING FULL CIRCLE**

It is not often that one gets to see the full impact of one's efforts, but sometimes, you catch a glimpse.

This was the feeling when supporters of the former Parents & Friends of Glen Eira House assembled at the recently opened The Coppel & Piekarski Family Disability Respite Centre to pay tribute to dear friends Rookie (Rachael) Smith z'l and Egon and Lily Weis z'l.

The brand new facility is a dream-cometrue for those who remember the early years of Jewish Welfare's services. It is a far cry from the California bungalows which housed its disability program in the 70s and 80s. But the commitment to quality care is still the same.

We are grateful to Rookie, Egon and Lily and so many other volunteers and benefactors, whose hard work, vision and dedication established the foundations upon which our new centre now stands.

With the opening of The Coppel & Piekarski Family Disability Respite Centre, the work of Parents & Friends of Glen Eira House comes full circle.

Thanks to people like yourself, the circle of care continues on.

Warm regards,

Bill Appleby, CEO Jewish Care

### My Circle

# AUTHOR AND FORMER SENIOR OF THE YEAR, MARY FISHER IS ONE OF MANY VALUED BENEFACTORS WHO HAVE INCLUDED A BEQUEST TO JEWISH CARE IN THEIR WILL.

Born Malka Boltiansky in the Russian town of Tokmak in 1912, Mary moved with her family to Tel Aviv when she was 12, where she learned Hebrew and developed a love of the Jewish homeland. Life there was difficult however, and the family eventually settled in Australia, where Mary secured factory work and later helped out in her father's Lygon Street grocery store.

In the 1930s, Mary met her future husband, Jack Fisher, who worked as a furrier in Flinders Lane. They married at Toorak Shul, and six years later their daughter Susan was born. For many years, Mary and Jack ran a children's clothing business in Oakleigh called

'David & Dawn'. Sadly, Jack passed away on the eve of his retirement at the age of 57.

Willing to find new meaning in her life, Mary started to volunteer at Montefiore Homes. She became an advocate for older people, giving presentations to school children and organising outings for Monte's residents. Impressed by the residents she met, Mary began to compile their life stories, embarking upon a literary career which saw her publish five books in total, including her own autobiography, *Goodbye*, *Takmuk*. In recognition of her efforts, Mary received the Senior of the Year Premier's Award in 2000.



With parents and siblings following arrival in Australia.

Mary passed away in 2015 at the ripe age of 103. She left a thoughtful bequest to Jewish Care so that even after her death, her legacy could continue to enhance lives in our community.



A selection of Mary's published works, sharing the stories and wisdom she gained by volunteering at Montefiore Homes.



Mary at her father's grocery shop on Lygon Stret in the 1920's.



Mary Fisher enjoying the younger generation.

# YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE WEALTHY TO LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL



Most bequests to Jewish Care have been made by ordinary, hard-working people who want to make a positive and lasting impact to future generations of the Jewish community. Your contribution can be as much or as little as you want – every gift helps to ensure our community's wellbeing for years to come.

#### HOW BEQUESTS KEEP ON GIVING

Gifts from bequestors are set aside and carefully managed, ensuring a legacy of support for generations to come.

#### WANT SOME HELP GETTING ORGANISED?



Our Personal Records Organiser is a helpful booklet for recording all your important information.

For your Personal Records Organiser or information about gifts in wills, contact Feygl Cylich on 8517 5602 or fcylich@jewishcare.org.au.



#### DISABILITY RESPITE IN FULL SWING







Enjoying a ride on our new Liberty Swing, generously donated by Friends of Montefiore.

Families are enjoying a well-deserved break, thanks to the wonderful new facilities offered by our The Coppel & Piekarski Family Disability Respite Centre.

If you would like a tour of The Coppel & Piekarski Family Disability Respite Centre, contact Orlee Schneeweiss 8517 5647 or orlee@jewishcare.org.au

# WERE YOU INVOLVED IN PARENTS & FRIENDS OF GLEN EIRA HOUSE IN THE MID 1980s?



If so, you may find your photograph in The Parents & Friends of Glen Eira House Egon and Lily Weiss Album. Meticulously compiled by the late Egon Weiss, one of the group's founders, and lovingly preserved by his neice, Anouk Smetana, the album is a testament to the group's incredible efforts, dedication and pioneering spirit on behalf of people with a disability.

Let us know if you were involved with Parents & Friends of Glen Eira House and we would be delighted to send you a complimentary copy.

Please contact Margaret Langley at 8517 5963 or mlangley@jewishcare.org.au

Or view the album online at www.jewishcare.org.au/bequestors

# CELEBRATING THE FESTIVAL OF FREEDOM



The ancient tale of our people's exodus to freedom was celebrated at the Active Living Cente's annual Model Seder. Highlights included reciting the Haggadah, kneidlach in chicken soup (of course!) and a lively round of communal dancing.

#### MAZAL TOV! 100 YEARS YOUNG



Friends at the Active Living Centre celebrated the 100th birthdays of two regular participants, Claire Aghion and Joseph Wajnsztejn. A very good time was had by all!

For information about the Active Living Centre's calendar of activities, contact the Centre's Acting Manager Janet Francis on 8517 5402 or jfrancis@jewishcare.org.au

## My Circle

## FRIENDS & FACES

Circle of Care Gold Members viewed our newly opened The Coppel & Piekarski Family Disability Respite Centre.

Top row, from left to right:

David Zyk & Tony Levy OAM, Eve and Lewis Lustig, Alex & Natascha Daniels & Bronia Rosenbaum, Ian & Yvonne Fayman & Bill Appleby, Howard & Michele Kiel & Anne Korman, Rosemary Michael & Pam Durra, Michelle Feiglin & Inge Ruben, Natalie & Norman Kotzman & Val Granat, Leonard Levy & Lady Anna Cowen AM.



#### **OUT AND ABOUT**

A change of scenery envigorates the mind, body and soul. Here are some great ways to enjoy the winter afternoons.



### POLAND EXHIBIT AT THE JEWISH MUSEUM

Did you or your family come from Poland? This new exhibit sheds light on post-war Poland for the first time in Australia. Jewish Museum of Australia, 26 Alma Road, St Kilda. Admission \$10/\$5 concession.
Until 31 July.

### DRESSMAKER FASHIONS AT RIPPONLEA GARDENS

If you're a fashionista, you can't go past the Dressmaker Exhibition starring the stunning haute couture costumes from the film of the same name. At Rippon Lea House and Gardens, 192 Hotham Street, Elsternwick. \$20/\$18 concession. Until 31 July.



#### **CARERS NEED TIME OUT, TOO**

Outings can sometimes be hard when looking after someone at home. Jewish Care can organise respite so you can catch up with a friend, do the shopping or simply rest. If you or someone you know is caring for an older person or someone living with a disability, we can assist.

For information about respite options, call our Front Door on 8517 5999 or email info@jewishcare.org.au or visit www.jewishcare.org.au

### My Circle

A publication of Jewish Care's Circle of Care.

Circle of Care is a social group of Jewish Care supporters who enjoy celebrating our work and values. We hold a variety of events throughout the year. Individuals who advise they have included a gift to Jewish Care in their will become honoured Gold Members of Circle of Care, with invitations to special events and additional benefits.

For further information or to be included in future events, call Feygl Cylich on 8517 5602 or email fcylich@jewishcare.org.au

Jewish Care Victoria 619 St Kilda Road Melbourne VIC 3004