



EMANUEL SCHOOL

# Grandparents & Friends

# NEWS

June 2018

Tamuz 5778

Vol 10 Issue 1



## From the Development Office

I hope this latest newsletter finds you and your family well. At the end of January, we welcomed our new Principal, Andrew Watt. See page 3 for his first newsletter report.

If you are reading this newsletter as new Emanuel grandparents, welcome to our family. If you have missed seeing past newsletters, they can all be viewed at: [www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au/Gesher](http://www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au/Gesher)

I also encourage you to have a look at the Alumni newsletters using this same link. Here you will read about some of the amazing achievements of our graduates.

Many of you now have the opportunity to read our weekly newsletter Ma Nishma, which comes out every Friday by email. If you don't already get it but would like to, please let me know.

Did you know Emanuel School is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year? We have certainly come a long way since 1983 when we started with just 53 students in shared rooms at Emanuel Synagogue, then known as Temple Emanuel Woollahra. See page 11 for our first ever official school photo. What an amazing journey we have been on since then, and we are of course, very excited about the opening of our newest building – our Innovation Centre on 26 July.

This year for the first time, our Primary students all celebrated Pesach at a combined event on 23 March, where parents and grandparents



## Inside this Issue...

From the Development Office .....	1
Gesher Community Connections .....	2
From the Principal's Desk .....	3

Kornmehl Pre-school .....	3
PSG .....	4
Jewish Studies Department .....	5
P&F .....	7
Grandparents Committee .....	8

Save the Date .....	8
Schmooze .....	9
1983 School Photo .....	11
Emanuel School Foundation .....	12



Emanuel School is a member of the JCA family of Organisations



EMANUEL SCHOOL

20 Stanley Street Randwick NSW 2031  
[www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](http://www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)

EMANUEL SCHOOL Where the Individual Excels

## From the **Development Office** (continued)



*Emanuel School 1993*

were invited to be involved. The MPH was jammed-packed with students and visitors for an amazing celebration of this very important chag.

Our annual Primary Grandparents and Friends Day is scheduled for Tuesday 4 September, so please keep this date free if your grandchildren are in Years K to 6. Details about this morning event will be out soon.

We truly value all our grandparents and the contributions so many of you make to our wonderful school community. The children certainly love having you volunteer or visit for a variety of events during the year.

We love to hear your news and share it with other members of our community. Please feel free to contact me at [snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)

**Sonia Newell, Development Officer**



*Dr Dale Fox and Rabbi Brian Fox*



*Connecting the Emanuel School Community*

We have had an amazing start to 2018 and how time flies – to think we are already half way through the year, with so many fabulous ways of connecting our wonderful Emanuel community. As many of you already know, “Gesher” is the Hebrew word for “bridge” and Gesher for our School is all about “community”. We are the link between School, our grandparents and friends, our past students and our past parents. In reality, we are the link to anyone with an interest in our School.

I hope you can join us here at school during the year to enjoy spending time with your grandchildren whom we know, together with our teachers and support staff, just love to show off this amazing School.

Thank you to Sonia Newell, our Development Officer, for her production of our bi-annual newsletters. I encourage you to

check out the Alumni newsletters too, and read about some of the amazing achievements of our graduates and the abundance of alumni news. We also have a page in the weekly School newsletter Ma Nishma with updates about events and people. We love to hear your news too and would like to share it with other members of our community.

The Grandparents Committee, headed by Tammy Keller and Kathy Passman, held a sell-out morning at The Sydney Jewish Museum at the start of March. See their report later in this newsletter. We hope this Committee continues to join and support us with so many opportunities to volunteer.

More than 20 of our Grandparents are already members of our PSG (Parent Security Group) and we would love to see more grandparents sign up. Please see page xx for more details about what is involved.

We hope to see you here for Primary Grandparents and Friends day on 4 September, as well at other events that involve your grandchildren.

We look forward to your continued involvement and connection with Emanuel School and appreciate your efforts in volunteering and giving your time for many more years to come.

**Daniel Knoll, Board Member and Chair, Gesher Committee**





## From the Principal's Desk

Whilst some of you have met me, this is my first formal opportunity to introduce myself to our much-valued Emanuel grandparents and friends! After completing my 1st term at Emanuel, I can confirm that our community is both welcoming and inclusive. I have consistently encountered happy, friendly, approachable young people, who are unafraid to express their ideas and opinions, as they know

that they are greatly valued and cared for. Whether talking to parents, staff or students, a consistent expression of commitment to and pride in the School has emerged – and this is a very powerful and uniting force that we must treasure and maintain as we move forward. I feel very privileged to be here.

In 2002, our House system commenced, with students joining Rabin, Rashi or Szenes. In addition to being our primary vehicle for student support and wellbeing, there has been fierce but friendly competition across a range of sports and other activities. In light of our full enrolments, we are introducing our 4th (and final!) House, which will provide further leadership opportunities and allow us to keep numbers to a maximum of 120 students in each House. The new house has been named 'Meir' in recognition of Golda Meir, teacher, kibbutznik, stateswoman and politician, who is best known as the 4th Prime Minister of Israel and the 1st woman to hold the title. The new House will be led by alumnus and HSIE teacher Adam Ezekiel, who was a student at the School when the 3 Houses were introduced! A student assembly was held on 13 June to welcome Meir House.

As the countdown continues for the completion of our Innovation Centre, the attractive shape and design of the façade and learning spaces is emerging. With an expected completion date of late June, much thought has been given to how we furnish our 2 MakerSpaces, D&T kitchen and classrooms, to reflect our innovative, creative and collaborative approach to learning. We are seeking to provide a contemporary, non-institutional feel, with distinct spaces to reflect, to participate in group work or to come together as a class or extended group. The new learning spaces will be well suited to innovative practices, incorporating design thinking, enquiry-based learning and project-based learning. I look forward to meeting you at future school events.

**Andrew Watt, Principal**



## Message from Kornmehl Centre Emanuel Pre-school

At Kornmehl we are privileged to be able to keep the connections between young people and our older adults strong.

As more older adults age and live further away from their families, it's important that we connect young and old to benefit both generations. Technology is bridging the generation gap and providing ways for older and younger people to stay in touch. We are using smartphones, tablets, and the internet more often to make 'face to face' connections but still largely rely on simple phone calls.

Social media, email, and text messaging are ways the older generation and young people are beginning to connect more often. Skype and FaceTime bring the virtual visit to life for seniors and grandchildren allowing them to communicate frequently, no matter the busy schedule or distance of today's families.

Intergenerational connection, whether organised or organic, is vital to both young and old.

At Kornmehl we work hard to involve grandparents in our everyday activities. We have grandparents assisting with Bush School visits, baking, reading to children and assisting families with drop-off and pick-ups on a daily basis.

We treasure and value these connections and relationships with grandparents very deeply.



## Kornmehl Centre Emanuel Pre-school (continued)

We chatted to some of our grandparents about what this connection with their grandchildren and our Pre-school means to them...

- **Merle Shapiro – Grandmother of Isaac Greenberg**

It means the world to me to be able to assist with fetching my grandson, because we were immigrants and we did not have any grandparents around to do that for us. It's a blessing! It's oxygen! I try to be with them as much as possible. As they get older, grandchildren will go along different pathways. So, now is the time to spend with them. My grandchildren are magic!

- **Trevor Leach – Grandfather of Jonathan Leach**

Being able to drop off or pick up Jonathan is a special time to be with him. It gives us 1-1 time to talk about school and other things that come up, like a discussion about music.

I find parents of today are under so much pressure and stress. Being a grandparent means things are dissolved, so you have quality time with your grandchild. Parents today have it so hard in this modern world. It's good that grandparents can be there to give a helping hand.

- **Wendy Botsman – Nanna of Grace Botsman**

As I am from interstate, I am not part of everyday life. So, when I visit, it's special to see what Grace does at school and to be involved in her day. I love being able to see the day books and photos of her experiences. This helps me to be connected to her daily experiences. Grace loves showing me around her Pre-school. Being a grandparent is a more relaxed relationship. You love them dearly, but you don't have to set limits and discipline them as much. It's about all the joys and not the hard work. Watching them grow is special!

- **Arlene Schwartz – Bobba of Luca Schwartz**

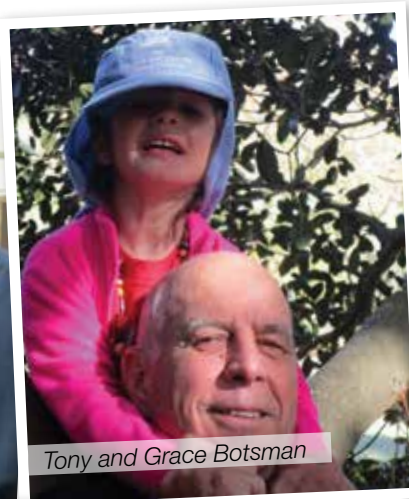
I love being involved and getting a sense of what's available to Luca at Pre-school and who his friends are. As a grandparent, all too soon the grandchildren grow up and we lose them to their friends and other interests. The bonds need to be cemented at this age. It's a critical time. They are so interesting, and their minds are so active and inquisitive. It's just amazing! As you spend time with your grandchildren, you see the development and understanding grow. Being a Bobba, gives me a second chance and I find I am much better at it this time. I am more patient and understanding!

- **Beverly Golovsky – Grandmother of Talia Golovsky**

Grandchildren are the most precious gifts a grandparent could ever have. I love picking up from Kornmehl. The atmosphere is so warm, welcoming, friendly and inclusive. This connection, deepens my relationship with Talia. Our relationship with the Pre-school has been ongoing for many years. This is my last year and I will be sad to say goodbye.



Trevor and Jonathan Leach



Tony and Grace Botsman



Wendy and Grace Botsman



Arlene and Luca Schwartz



Beverly and Talia Golovsky

## Parent Security Group (PSG)

More than 20 Emanuel grandparents are already members of our PSG (Parent Security Group) and we would love to see more grandparents sign up. Please contact: [esadmin@sydspg.com](mailto:esadmin@sydspg.com) for more information on what is involved and how to be part of this very important team.





# From the Jewish Studies Department

## Highlights from some of the events held over the past few months:

An estimated 350 parents and grandparents attended our first Pesach Family Workshop and Celebration event held in the week before Pesach. The goal of the workshops was to engage parents and families in Jewish learning and experiences. To this end, the workshops planned for students from Years K to 6 were designed to involve students and parents and/or grandparents in Pesach-related learning. The goal was for each participant to leave with something new – a tangible object, knowledge, recipe, seder ritual or idea that could be shared and enrich their own family seder. The workshops were:

### Year K: Experiencing Ma Nishtana

As the youngest in our community, Year K students and their families focused on the questions and rituals found in the famous Pesach song, 'Ma Nishtana'. Working with teachers and High School student leaders, participants worked in small groups to experience and learn more about one of the 4 questions. In the spirit of 'Ma Nishtana', which describes what is different on this Pesach night, students and adults were invited to sample 6 different haroset recipes from Jewish communities around the world.

### Year 1: Women in the Pesach story, creating a clay Cup for Miriyam – Kos Miriyam

In learning the Pesach story, students focused on the important and often overlooked role played by women in maintaining and saving the Jewish people, such as Yocheved (Moshe's mother) and Miriyam (Moshe's sister), before learning more about a contemporary seder ritual, Kos Miriyam – Miriam's Cup. Participants then worked with ceramicist Lia Klugman to create a clay cup to add to their Judaica collection and received a handout with information about Miriam and ways in which Kos Miriyam could be included in their own sederim.

### Year 2: Pesach customs and food from around the Jewish world

Year 2 and their families learnt and experienced Pesach customs from different Jewish communities, with Morah Bar-On and Morah Harvey sharing customs from Morocco and Libya. An interactive session followed where families were invited to share their own Pesach traditions and customs. This session culminated in a Pesach feast, featuring Pesach dishes from around the world prepared by our D&T Assistant Natasha Avenoso and the Year 11 Hospitality students.





## From the Jewish Studies Department (continued)

### Year 3: Matzah Making and Pesach Singing

Students, parents and grandparents learnt all about matzah and got their hands messy in a practical workshop making their own matzah with the Chabad Youth Matzah Factory. Participants learnt the steps followed to ensure matzah remains unleavened (being baked within 18 minutes of mixing flour and water). This session was followed by a family sing-a-long of Pesach songs, both traditional and contemporary, accompanied by our wonderful long time Pesach musician and parent, Michelle Goldman. The session concluded with a dramatic singing of "Chad Gadya" – with participants acting out the various elements of the song.



### Year 4: 4 in the Seder and Creating a Matzah Cover

In preparation for the workshop, Hebrew and Jewish Studies lessons were devoted to students working collaboratively to research and create presentations, displays and board games exploring the number 4 in the seder; 4 names for Pesach, 4 cups of wine, 4 children and the 4 questions in Ma Nishtana. Parents and grandparents were invited to a gallery exhibit of the students' work and creations, to learn from the students and ask them questions. Students and adults then worked with the artist Limor Dekel to create a beautiful matzah cover for their homes.



### Year 5: Clay Mezuzah Making

Participants explored the connection between the mezuzah and the Pesach story, where the Israelites painted their mezzuzot (doorposts) with the blood of a sacrificed lamb to ensure the 10th plague Pasach (passed-over) the homes of the Israelites. Participants then worked with clay to create beautiful and unique mezuzot for their homes and for the School.



### Year 6: Bringing Questions to your Seder

Asking questions is a key element of learning and a central part of the seder experience. In this session students and adults were invited to reflect on and develop their own 'big, deep' questions to bring and share at their own seder table. Participants then continued to create quiz type questions for Pesach that could be incorporated into their own Pesach seder.

**Adam Carpenter, Head of Jewish Studies Primary**





# P&F Report



## Greetings from the Parents & Friends

Hello There! We hope you are all well. This is our second year writing to you as the Co-Presidents of the Emanuel P&F. Last year felt like a real whirlwind, as we tried to learn the ropes and throw events that would be successful friend-raisers for the Emanuel community.

Time is flying and our children are now in Years 2, 3, 5 and 7. We are enjoying watching them grow and flourish at this beautiful School.

Once again, we have had a busy start to the year. We kicked off 2018 with our annual Staff Welcome Lunch, which was a great way to both welcome back and thank our staff members.

"Cookies and Kisses" had an amazing turnout, where we got to meet some of the parents of the new Year K students. Everyone seemed to be settled and at ease, and that was on Day One!

Our Purim Disco was as fun as always! We are so thankful for our wonderful parent and High School volunteers, who helped to run the event and minimize chaos. The children's costumes were fantastic and it was an afternoon of dancing, eating (the fairy floss queue was a sight to behold), face painting, sports and crafts! A massive thank you to all our volunteers – the fantastic Emanuel parents/families, and a special thank you to Tami Martin from Kool Kidzz, who entertained our children with amazing arts and crafts, and Shannon, our fabulous magician. Also, thank you to Red Rocket Toys and The Art Shop at Rose Bay for donating the amazing prizes!

Our Mothers' Day breakfast and stalls were a great success. Thank you to all our volunteers, to Michelle Stockley, Shelley Millingen, Nikki Michel and Lisa Strous for organising the stalls, to our wonderful Canteen for catering and to Biller Property for supplying the coffee cart.

We held our second ever Mums at the Movies Night last month, with a Grease sing-a-long, and our major event of the year is our Games Night on 25 August. We would love for you to join us! See poster for details about how to book. To book: [www.trybooking.com/WCAK](http://www.trybooking.com/WCAK)

Thank you so much for your support of the P&F and we look forward to seeing you all soon,

**Jen Opit and Ruby Berkovic,**  
**Co-Presidents of the P&F**



Mother's Day Breakfast



Mother's Day Breakfast



Purim



Purim fairy floss queue



P&F Committee in action

# Grandparents Committee

Co-presidents of this committee for 2018, Kathy Passman and Tammy Keller sit on our Geshet Committee, which meets every 6 to 8 weeks to seek ways of connecting our community.

If you would like to join the Grandparents Committee and/or have some ideas for future events please get in touch:

snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au

On Monday 5 March, 56 parents, grandparents and friends spent the morning at Sydney Jewish Museum (SJM) at our sold-out Grandparents Committee event. In fact this event was over-subscribed and so we thank the staff at SJM for accommodating all of us.

One could never say visiting SJM is an "enjoyable" experience, but it is certainly very important for us all, both Jews and non-Jews to know about and remember the Holocaust and acknowledge those who perished at the hands of Hitler and the Nazis, as well as those who survived those terrible times.

The morning started with a welcome to SJM and very moving introduction to the Righteous Voices exhibition by Shannon Biederman, Curator Collection at the Museum. Our large group was then divided into 4, for the tour through the Museum. Two of the 4 very knowledgeable volunteer guides are members of our school community – parent Mandy Meyerowitz and grandmother Miriam Sonnenshein.

Grandmother Lorraine Deeley and her friend Marlene Muir came up by train from Campbelltown for the event and really appreciated the opportunity to join the tour. The oldest member of our

group was 94-year-old great-grandmother, Naomi Zulberg, who was accompanied by her daughter Nadine Woolf, grandmother of Emanuel students Raquel and Gabriel Lee and Nadine's twin sister Elaine Hirsch who was visiting from Houston, USA.

About half of our group then stayed on for lunch in the Museum's cafeteria, enjoying smoked-salmon bagels followed by cake and coffee and the opportunity to meet and chat with each other.

"It was a warm and informative eye-opening and moving experience today...amazing Righteous Gentiles' stories, showed us there is a lot of good in the world to compensate for the bad. We ended the tour with a nice sit-down lunch and well needed coffee." Tammy Keller

"The Sydney Jewish Museum is a wonderful statement of Jewish continuity through adversity. We appreciated the opportunity to view some of it today and lunch afterwards was a good opportunity to meet other grandparents." Susan Sweller

Emanuel School has so many connections with SJM. Yotam Weiner (Class of 1998) and former Emanuel Jewish Studies teacher) was Head of Education from 2013 until April when he left to move to Canada. Alumna Rebecca Kummerfeld (Class of 2003) now holds the position of Head of Education, whilst Simon Holloway (Class of 1997) is also part of the Education team. Many of our parents



and grandparents volunteer as guides, as does great grandmother and survivor Olga Horak, whilst others work behind the front desk, including past parent Jackie Weiss who was on duty the day of our tour.

There are numerous opportunities to volunteer at SJM and/or attend lectures and book launches:

[www.sydnejewishmuseum.com.au](http://www.sydnejewishmuseum.com.au)

## SAVE THE DATE



**TUESDAY 28  
AUGUST 2018**

Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Tour at the Art Gallery of NSW  
@ \$20 per person. Hosted by the Grandparents Committee.  
Open to all members of our school community.

**More details out soon.**



**TUESDAY 4  
SEPTEMBER 2018**

**PRIMARY GRANDPARENTS  
AND FRIENDS DAY**

Please join us to celebrate  
Shabbat and Rosh Hashanah





THE P&F PRESENTS

# GAMES NIGHT

**SATURDAY 25 AUGUST**

**7.30 PM**

**LEHRER FAMILY BUILDING (MPH)**

Dinner & drinks

Auction prizes

Trivia,  
Bingo &  
more

Musical entertainment  
provided by Emanuel  
Parents

Tickets: \$50 for a single ticket, \$450 for a table of 10  
Booking link: [www.trybooking.com/WCAK](http://www.trybooking.com/WCAK)

## Schmooze with Olga Horak

To acknowledge and celebrate International Women's Day this year, we were privileged to have Holocaust survivor Olga Horak, an Emanuel great-grandmother address our School at a special lunchtime session on Thursday 8 March.

Here now is part of an article written by past Emanuel student and journalist, Marina Kamenev following an interview with Olga, reproduced here with permission of the author. Titled "The Holocaust Survivors Who Take care of Their Own", the article was first published on Narrative.ly on 7 March 2018.

As the children of the war reach old age, one group of survivors is teaching nursing home workers how to treat a type of trauma that only they can understand.

Olga Horak, a 91-year-old Holocaust survivor, knows the Sydney Jewish Museum intimately. Three days a week she arrives in Darlinghurst, a voguish section of the city, at nine a.m. – a full hour early – so that she is guaranteed a parking spot close enough to the museum. "I can't walk very far," Horak says during in an interview in a small, tidy room in her home. In the center is a suitcase-sized coffee table Horak recently scaled to change a lightbulb.

A week later, at the museum, her slate-colored hair is arranged in a French roll and she wears dangly, gold earrings – a small circle perched on a larger one. Despite the cusp-of-summer heat, she is dressed in a three-quarter-sleeved leopard-print dress that ends a few inches below her knees, paired with black pantyhose and black pointed flats.

"I won't wear shoes without stockings, not even sandals," she said. Horak comes from a line of precise dressers. Her own mother used to stuff the sleeves of dresses with tissue paper so that they wouldn't crease on the hanger. "Some traditions from your upbringing just don't leave you."

Survivors like Horak have been the lifeblood of the Sydney Jewish Museum since it opened in 1992, providing living history lessons to almost 50,000 visitors every year. There are 42 survivors volunteering today.

To the photographed atrocities on display, they add their own personal objects from the war as well as stories of cruelty, loss



Left: Marina Kamenev



Right: Olga Horak with the blanket that helped save her life.

Image: Photographer Katherine Griffiths. Sydney Jewish Museum collection.

and sometimes serendipity. Horak has taught herself to "overcome certain emotions," although she will cry when she sees guests crying. But her fundamental role as a survivor is to prevent the museum from calcifying into a sepulchral display of faded genocide, as far removed from the present day as Tutankhamun's tomb.

The museum has also tasked survivors like Horak with providing a unique educational role: They teach nursing home caregivers to attend to elderly patients experiencing symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, creating a unique situation in which those who care for patients with trauma are being led by the traumatized.

In a narrow, windowless room at the museum, Horak gives an account of her harrowing World War II experience to a dozen staff from Sir Moses Montefiore Jewish Home. The aged care facility spans four campuses in Sydney. Almost all of the 740 residents are Jewish and more than 30 percent are Holocaust survivors. There are approximately 100 beds dedicated to patients with dementia.

## Schmooze with Olga Horak (continued)

Horak's role today is to acquaint the staff – most of whom are caregivers – with the unique horrors of the Holocaust. Australia has the largest per-capita survivor population outside of Israel, and those who were born during the Second World War are already in their seventies. A paper published in the Medical Journal of Australia in 2011 outlined some of the distinct trauma this group might face as they age: "With cognitive decline, PTSD severity might worsen as repressed memories in the brain are liberated." The program at Montefiore intends to assist personnel with understanding the specific needs of this dwindling group.

Some potential triggers have already been eliminated. For example, the residents at Montefiore do not wear name tags around their arms in case that brings up memories of being labeled and reduced to a number. The campuses are banned from using yellow for decorations, lest it remind patients of the yellow star that Jews were forced to display during the war. And, in most cases, occupants have their own room and their own bathroom, to ensure that they have dignity, privacy, and don't recall the cramped living quarters in camps or ghettos.

Jeannine Lew, the Social Work Manager at Montefiore at the time of doing this interview, has found that patients have idiosyncrasies around food. "One woman made a vow the day that she left Auschwitz. She would never discriminate," she says, "and never throw out a piece of bread." Many residents share this mentality and take food from the dining room into their bedroom after their meals, where it may go off. "You have to be very sensitive about removing it," she says, in case of shaming the survivor.

But there is always more to learn, and that's the reason for the course at the museum. It was created by Renée Symonds, a clinical psychologist, who had the idea when her Holocaust-survivor mother was admitted into Montefiore with dementia. She noticed the disturbing combination of sundowning residents and distressed care staff, some of whom have come from countries with their own backgrounds of trauma. "That combination needed to be thought through," she says. "The residents' behavior was so challenging it caused the staff to react in frustration."

Although they do it readily, speaking about their experiences takes a toll on the volunteers. In 2006, Rony Bogнар, the Volunteer Manager at the museum, asked volunteers how they felt about sharing chilling details of their lives with strangers, up to three times a week. "We expected them to say, 'We are a bit tired, a bit long in the tooth now, we have been doing it for too long,'" Bogнар says. But the guides' answers were far from blasé. "We were shocked by the responses. One survivor said, 'Every time I leave here to go home, I drink for the next 24 hours.' Another said, 'This is my personal torture chamber, but I can't keep away.'"

Symonds and Bogнар started running focus groups for the guides. The guides learned each other's stories, of which they only knew portions, and found empathy among the tales of brutality.

"There is a hierarchy of suffering among them," Sandy Hollis, the Museum's Education Officer says. "One would tell another that they were in Auschwitz and the other would reply, 'Oh Auschwitz, you're so lucky. I was in Mauthausen.'"

These days, meetings take place every two months. "We used to have an agenda, but they threw the agenda out," Bogнар says. The survivors are resistant to therapy and balked at the idea of receiving

counselling more than half a century after the Holocaust. "They call these groups 'hocus focus.'"

In November, the museum turned 25 years old. Horak was interviewed to mark the anniversary with a speech about her experience of working at the museum. The reporter asked, "How do you feel talking about what happened? Surely it must help you?" Horak recounts, growing increasingly agitated.

"They presume that if you go to a psychiatrist, if you go to counselling, it helps. I don't think so, I don't think any psychiatrist who gets thousands of dollars to pay for his couch – or whatever – can help me."

Despite her skepticism about the therapeutic value of talk, Horak still needs to be heard. In the meeting with the aged care staff, she stands behind a red chair, which was provided for her to sit in, and folds her hands over its back. "I come from Czechoslovakia," she says. "I'm a product of a country which doesn't exist anymore."

Horak was born in Bratislava in 1926. By the time she was a teenager, the Nuremberg Laws had come into effect and she was forced to abandon her schooling and wear a yellow star on her clothes. In 1942, the fascist guards began "collecting" single Jews born prior to 1925. Horak's sister Judith belonged to this cohort.

"Have you ever heard of people being collected?" Horak asks the room. "What would you collect? You collect things. But not people."

The remaining members of her family crossed the border and hid in Hungary, until the situation there grew untenable. They returned to Bratislava and managed to remain concealed until August 1944, when a neighbor betrayed them to the Nazi authorities.

"Have you ever heard of Auschwitz?" she asks the room. Almost everyone shakes their head. "Is it a German word?" asks one of the caregivers.

Horak describes the cattle car: "It was meant for eight horses, maybe 40 people – standing, but there were around a hundred of us." She talks about the music playing, the barking dogs, about being separated from her father, who she never saw again, by the casual wag of a guard's finger.

Then she speaks of being a 17-year-old girl. The humiliation of being stripped, shaved, stared at, and inspected by Dr. Mengele. "My mother and I were healthy and sent to the right." Those who were sent to the left were gassed.

To this day she is uncomfortable undressing in front of doctors. This mistrust of the medical establishment is common among survivors.

"When we ask a lot of our survivors here how they are feeling, they say they are healthy, they are strong," says Hollis. "We have a survivor who is 98 years old. Even when he has the flu, he will still come in."

The desire to pass on their firsthand stories is what keeps the survivors coming back to the museum.

"I am exhausted after these talks," Horak says. "In the morning, I take my blood pressure medication and I'm O.K., but when I get home I collapse." She will do it until the museum asks her to stop, or "until Dr. Alzheimer's comes knocking."

"Soon we will be relegated to a few paragraphs in a textbook, we will be just a bunch of strange names that are hard to pronounce."

"Everyone is sick of us talking, telling the same stories. They think they know."

"They will never know."



# The Emanuel School Family 1983

**We are only missing five names...** Can you help complete this list of our first ever official Emanuel School photograph? **How good is your memory – Can you help us identify them?**



- Front Row (L-R): Bianca Gehl, Naomi Tarsis, Mela Medvedovsky, Zoe Spiegel, Kate Ratner, Jasmin Streimer, Alanah Zitzerman, Christina Lemkin, Simone Havin, \_\_\_\_\_, Talia Deutsch, Susan \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Georgia Teiperman, Janine Israel.
- Second Row (L-R): Alla Nock, Miriam Fox, Jenny Spinak, Jessica Bures, Ondine Sherman, Mandi Smith, Eli Haski, Daphny Ravy, Natasha Cherny, Khara Weisz, Svetlana Goltsman, Rachel Spiegel.
- Third Row (L-R): Benny Sharon, Daniel Vasin, Russel Bergman, Rueben Newhouse, Danny Sharon, David Jeffries, Julian Bures, Perlita Benhayon, Kolya Miller, Ben Fox, David Ratner, Jacob Kaplan, Alex Strizhevsky, Jonathan Hirst, Simon Glasser, Eric \_\_\_\_\_.
- Fourth Row (L-R): David Koteck, David Sorauer, Guy Ravy, David Hirst, Greg Weisz, Anton Boski, Lindi Smith, Felicia Meric, Nadine Weinberger, Marina Goldshmid, Solonge Boski, Sarona Pilcer, Denis Zilberman, Maxim Bolkovsky, \_\_\_\_\_, Ryo Hino, Adin Pilcer.
- Back Row (L-R): Hezie Lazarous, Nick Deutsch, Daniel Sorauer, Michael Fooks, Leonid Goltsman, Harry Derunovsky, Alan Jeffries, Eugene Freeney, Ronnie Aron, Ari Marks, Christian Charnas, Yonaton Miller, Ben Donally, Ronen Stoller.
- Staff:
- LHS left to right: Sandi Einstein, Shirley Holt, Linda Zurnamer.
- Middle of photo left to right: Lou-Anne Folder, Tom Wiedenman (Principal), Sarah Friend.
- RHS left to right: Debbie Levy, Jeanette Streimer, Carol Perry.

There are many opportunities to be involved.  
If you have a little time to spare and would like to help at School,  
please contact Sonia Newell on 8383 7350 or  
[snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)



## EMANUEL SCHOOL FOUNDATION

The Emanuel School Foundation aims to ensure that any Jewish child has the opportunity to learn and grow at our School by providing academic scholarships and bursaries for children from families who may not be able to afford a Jewish day school education.

More information on our Foundation is available online at:  
[www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au/community/foundation/](http://www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au/community/foundation/)

All donations to the Emanuel School  
Foundation are tax deductible.

**Charles Aronson, Chairman**

## Need a hand to get around the School?



Our little red car, driven by a member of staff, is a fabulous way for some of our less mobile visitors to get around the School campus.

Simply let us know if you need it!

## Stay in touch with the Emanuel School Grandparents & Friends Club

Do you want to add or update your details on our Grandparents and Friends mailing list?

Please fill out the form below or send an email to Sonia Newell at [snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)

Name .....

Current Postal Address .....

Telephone (mobile preferred) .....

Email .....

Grandchild(ren)

Name ..... Year .....

Name ..... Year .....

Name ..... Year .....

Please return this form to:

Emanuel School Grandparents & Friends Club, Attention: Sonia Newell, PO Box 202 Randwick NSW 2031

We thank our Grandparents and Friends for their time and support in helping make Emanuel School such a special place and we look forward to your continuing assistance.

Thank you to our staff and other members of our Emanuel School community for your invaluable contributions to this newsletter.

We believe the information included is correct at the time of printing. Any errors are regretted.



Emanuel School is a member of the JCA family of Organisations



**EMANUEL SCHOOL**

20 Stanley Street Randwick NSW 2031  
[www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](http://www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)

**EMANUEL SCHOOL** Where the Individual Excels