



# News From New Zealand

By Bryce Turner, New Zealand National Executive Director



Thank you for joining us in this edition of Israel and Christians Today. Once again, Israel has featured heavily in the world news. Recent months have seen some interesting, even positive

developments at a political level, whilst at the same time recent tragedies in Jerusalem, the Temple Mount and now Samaria, ring in our ears. As I write this, the people of northern New Zealand are in shock over the tragic slaying of two property inspectors. Our heart goes out to the families, friends, and colleagues etc who will be grieving at this time. At the same time our brothers and sisters in Israel have faced the shooting of two policemen on the Temple Mount, followed by the horrific knife murder of three members of a family in Samaria. As a result of the political tensions following the Temple Mount murders, three Palestinians have reportedly been killed in clashes with Police, and Israeli and Jordanian workers were killed at the Israeli embassy in Jordan. Families just like us – Israeli, Jordanian and Palestinian

alike – are right now grieving the loss of loved ones. Christians for Israel echoes the calls for peace, restraint and wisdom during this time, we must certainly pray for all those affected by this violence and for those trying to find peaceful solutions to the tensions.

On the home front, it was a great privilege to be invited to a meeting recently held at the Auckland Hebrew Congregation. Hosted jointly by the NZ Jewish Council and our friends at the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem, we were addressed by the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Rt Hon Bill English. Whilst the Prime Minister's message was careful, even cautious – it is election year after all – it was also very candid. He spoke without notes and from the heart. To be sitting in a synagogue amongst Jews and Christians alike, listening to the Prime Minister offer his own encouragement was quite a poignant moment. In light of the recent thawing of diplomatic relations between Israel and New Zealand, it would appear that there are positive signs of hope in the (re)developing relationship. New Zealand has historically invested heavily in the Holy Land. In October we

will honour the rooth anniversary of the famous Anzac battle to free BeerSheba. Many of our Anzacs fought and died in the Holy Land during the First World War, in heroic battles to free the land from the Ottomans and allow it to become the country that it is today. We supported too the acceptance of Israel at the United Nations in 1948. How disappointing it is to realise that our support for Israel has not only waived in recent times, but become vocal – albeit uneducated – opposition. We trust that our upcoming elections will produce a government that is wise enough to study the facts and continue to build relations with Israel.

September sees Israel celebrate the Jewish New Year. Whilst this takes place on the other side of the world, it does have some relevance to us. The celebrations are a



Photo Credit: Perry Trotter

time of refreshing, refocusing, looking ahead to an exciting new year and all the possibilities that it brings. Whilst clearly not coinciding with our new year, it does come as we in New Zealand cautiously look for signs of Spring - a new season of growth, a fresh start.

Thank you for your continued support of the work of Christians for Israel, both here in New Zealand and the South Pacific, around the world, and of course in Israel. I trust this edition will encourage you. May you and your families be blessed, as we bless Israel.

## WIZO in New Zealand

By Rose Toms, President WIZO Keshet Queensland, Australia (formerly Hastings NZ)



Women's International Zionist Organisation for an Improved Israeli Society



WIZO (Women's International Zionist Organisation) is by far the largest charity of its kind in Israel with over

800 institutions, such as day-care centres, schools, battered women shelters, youth villages, homes for the elderly, domestic violence treatment centres, homes for immigrant children, single parent centres,

as well as special centres for 'girls at risk' and immigrant absorption centres.

WIZO also provides a Hotline for abusive men, Women's enrichment programs, after school classes, social groups for the elderly, youth clubs, legal advice bureaus, therapeutic services, youth centres, vocational schools and many other centres to help the needy.

On a daily basis over 100,000 people are cared for with love and devotion, supported by volunteer members in over 50 countries. Today WIZO is at the forefront

of its care and expertise in dealing with the social needs throughout Israel.

On a visit to Israel some 25 years ago, a visit to Yad Vashem and as a non-Jewish woman, I determined to 'do' whatever I could to help. So began my journey with this fantastic organisation called WIZO.

In 1994 WIZO Keshet was formed on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland Australia. Our group is made up of Jewish and non-Jewish women with a passion for helping the needs in Israel and have members throughout Australia. New Zealand

became the first Federation after England in 1920. The New Zealand Plunket Society played a significant part in the establishment of WIZO in Israel by sending New Zealand nurses when the "Baby Home" was opened in 1928.

We have two WIZO Keshet groups in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand. If you would like to help or become a member, please contact one of the following:

**Berry Small** | phone: 0273-656-674  
email: berrykiwishalom@hotmail.com

**Linda Cook** | email: cookbear@ihug.co.nz



PRE-ORDER NOW

PRODUCED BY ANNA PICKETT

## 2018 Jerusalem Calendar & Greeting Cards

Calendar includes Biblical feast days and NZ public holidays  
Greeting cards feature calendar photos

**Calendars: \$20 for 1, \$35 for 2 or \$50 for 3**

**Greeting Cards (8 per pack): \$20 for 1 pkt, \$35 for 2 pkts or \$50 for 3 pkts**

Phone your order to **07 863 6973** or email Anna: [annascalendars@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:annascalendars@slingshot.co.nz)



# Yad Vashem: A Call From God

By Ian Clark, Wellington, Christian Friend of Israel

Late last year, I received an email from the former Israeli Ambassador to New Zealand, Yosef Livne, asking if could he introduce me to a member of the Jewish community? Not knowing who I would meet, or why, I said yes. I was then

introduced to the Chair of the Holocaust Centre, who asked if I could find five Christian Secondary School teachers to attend the Yad Vashem Seminar in January 2017. I considered this a mission from God, for Christians to work

alongside the Jewish Community. I contacted people I knew in Secondary Schools and interviewed a number of teachers who have a love for Israel. Four of the applicants attended the Seminar In Israel. One is a teacher at an Auckland

state Secondary School, two from Bethlehem College, Tauranga, and one is a tutor at Bethlehem Tertiary Institute. I asked them about their experience when they returned to New Zealand. Here are some of their thoughts.

## Speech at Oskar Schindler's Grave

By Peter Maslin, Tutor, Bethlehem Tertiary Institute, Tauranga

Kia Ora, I am sure that as a group we all agree that participation in this seminar is both a professional career and personal life highlight. A touching experience that has been life changing. We as a group have all come from different areas of New Zealand, various educational contexts and with different ideas about what we wanted to gather about Shoah and Israel for our life and professional kete's (Te Reo: Baskets of Knowledge) to make us better educators and people. We came to be specifically challenged and transformed in the way that Shoah is taught in New Zealand. To be connected to the stories, places and experiences that testify the reality of the Shoah and how it helped shape modern Israel.

Today is one of the real highlights of the trip. A high point among many. One we have all been looking forward to, talking about and waiting with anticipation to participate in and experience, the placing of a stone at the sacred space of Schindler's grace, Righteous among the Nations.

The stone we bring is a gift, a recognition of our story. Each is unique, is special, a taonga (Te Reo: Treasure), a treasure, chosen with care to represent the places, people and experiences that mean so much to us. It is symbolic of our Whakapapa (Te Reo: Ancestors/Family History), our Turangawaewae (Te Reo: Place of Belonging), our Wairua (Te Reo: spirit/essence).

We have brought it to honour the example of Oskar Schindler is to use as Righteous among Nations.

We place it to honour in our own small way the stories, experiences and life of the Shoah survivors who have shared with us.

We leave it to respect the testimony and story of the 6 million who did not survive and whose stories, lives and experiences we will now carry back to the place our stone came from to share.

It is a marker of the choice we now make to hear the call, and of the responsibility, we now have to live, share and be out spoken about all we have been privileged to learn, in a world that has a habit of forgetting or chooses to misplace the

reality of the past often.

It is time for us to take up the baton of Elie Wiesel, to take our new gift home, the challenge of which he gave in his concluding remarks at the opening of Yad Vashem, "The messenger has delivered the message. **What is our role?** We must become the messengers".

From the bottom of our hearts to all of the messengers of Yad Vashem, survivors, educators, the pages of testimony who have engaged, challenged, taught, inspired and cared for us, thank you, for transforming us to be messengers.

Our gratitude is beyond expressible words but hopefully will be seen in some small way in the actions that we now take.

## Interview with Garith Farr

HOD, Social Sciences, Bethlehem College, Tauranga

### How did the seminar in Yad Vashem impact you personally?

My family had said before I went to Israel that this was like a pilgrimage for me. That turned out to be true on so many levels. I was amazed at how my walk through the Bible lands lifted my own personal faith journey to a new level. It added so much to my appreciation of Scripture to see, smell and touch the land that provides the context for the greatest story on earth. There were many highlights, but as I wept at the Wailing Wall, and as we sang 'Open the eyes of my heart, Lord' on Lake Galilee, I did feel that I had come to a truly transformational point in my own personal faith journey.

I deliberately chose to challenge myself to apply for this opportunity to spend three weeks studying at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem as I always have, as a Christian, and as a teacher found that the best learning and growth takes place when we confront those opportunities we would rather avoid. Scripture tells us that God works in us to bring about change, and often it is through the challenging, painful periods of life that God does His work in us. I was always interested in exploring the role of the Church in the Holocaust (Shoah). I knew that Germany had a rich Christian heritage that must have been woven into the fabric of the society in the 1930s to some extent.

So I needed to know how it was, that in this civilised 'Christian' country, such an event could take place...where was the Church? How did Christians, as a group and as individuals respond? Are there lessons for us to learn for today? How do we pass these lessons on to our students at a Christian school? My studies at Yad Vashem and my readings subsequently have been confronting. The Holocaust (Shoah) took place in a region where Christianity was the dominant faith. Christian communities' responses were varied: some actively assisted the deportations of Jews, many were ambivalent, and some actively resisted the instructions of the Nazi party, to the point of risking, and sometimes giving up their lives, to rescue their Jewish brothers and sisters. This shared, painful history of two great faiths - Judaism and Christianity - raises uncomfortable questions, but we should not shy away from them if we want to be a relevant, transparent Christian community today.

### What did you bring back with you that you can apply to education in New Zealand?

Within the Christian school community, we have a critical responsibility to ensure our students understand our special relationship and shared history with our Jewish brothers and sisters. My visit to Israel gave me a whole new appreciation



NZ Educators at Jerusalem War Cemetery

of how important it is that our students understand and appreciate the land and the faith that our Saviour grew up in.

The Yad Vashem campus was developed as a memorial to the lives lost during the Holocaust. It has four strands of focus: documentation, commemoration, research and education.

The 115 hours spent studying at the campus provided the 26 other NZ educators and me with a rich resource base of strategies, knowledge, and experiences for teaching the Holocaust (Shoah) more effectively in our classrooms.

For our students to really grasp global empathy, they need to have empathy for those that have suffered throughout our world. This involves telling the stories of everyday life and individuals who were victims of the Nazi ideology and antisemitism that was rife in Europe in the years preceding the Holocaust (Shoah). Ultimately, I would hope that study of the Holocaust would encourage my students to move from a position of apathy/ambivalence to young people who actively involve themselves in standing for what is good and true, in whatever contexts they may find themselves in.



**ISRAEL  
FOCUS GROUP**

[www.israelfocusgroup.co.nz](http://www.israelfocusgroup.co.nz)



## Interview with Andrea Gohns

Academic Dean Year 12 and French Tutor, Bethlehem College, Tauranga



### How did you initially learn about the lecture series/tour to Israel?

I heard about the trip from an email that was sent around our school asking for applicants.

### How did the seminar in Yad Vashem impact you personally?

The trip impacted me greatly in so many ways. It taught me how to teach the Holocaust better; it helped towards

answering questions I had about the Holocaust. It was also great to learn more about the Jewish and Christian faiths and to bring it all to life.

The main thing I got from the trip was that despite such a tragedy there was so much hope and life to come out of it too.

Also, the notion that we have a responsibility to remember the tragedy of the Holocaust was important.

### What/Where was your favourite place? Why?

I really enjoyed visiting the Sea of Galilee. It was a place that moved me spiritually as I felt a real connection being in the places where Jesus had so much of his ministry.

### What did you bring back with you that you can apply to education in New Zealand?

Regarding education, I have been inspired to ensure I teach about the Holocaust to my students and remember those who were lost. I am now better informed on how to do this through the teaching philosophy of 'Safely in and Safely out'. This theory focuses more on individuals of the Holocaust, showing who they were, how they lived before, during (and when relevant) after the Holocaust rather than the shock and horror of teaching the Holocaust, which often focuses on the big numbers and takes away from the individual impact of this atrocity.

*The Sea of Galilee (photo) is Israel's largest freshwater lake; 53km around, 21km long, and 13km wide with a depth of 43m. At 209m below sea level, it is the lowest freshwater lake on Earth, and the second lowest lake in the world after the Dead Sea, a saltwater lake.*

## Summer Camps Ukraine

Vacationing in Ukraine is a little different than most of us are used to. We book a flight, a cabin, or pack up a tent and take our family to a sunny destination. We might even go to another country.

In Ukraine, you often spend your vacation at a camp. When the schools close their doors, the camps open their cabins and tents for a great children's programme.

The local Jewish communities in Ukraine are making an effort to give children the opportunity to go to a camp, where they play games, go on scavenger hunts and have talent shows.

But there is a serious side as well. Throughout the whole programme, it's clear that this camp is for Jewish children. You can see this in the themes of the programme; Israel is one of them.

In a very laid back way, children learn lots of things about the land of Israel: how it came to be, that they can go and live there when they grow up, or go there now if their parents want to. And then there's the side of summer camps the Jewish



communities don't point out. These children are often from poor families, living with constant stress from the ongoing war in the East of Ukraine. For this reason, healthy and nutritious meals are served at these summer camps, making a real difference to these children's lives.

Christians for Israel is helping to supply healthy food, allowing thousands of children in Zaporosje, Bela Cherkov, Mariupol, Odessa and Zhytomyr to have a wonderful time at camp. After summer, the children can start a new school year refreshed and strengthened, and maybe start dreaming a little of a future in Israel.

## What's Happening

### Stan Goodenough Tour - Anzacs Then & Now

**Thursday, 10 August:** Freedom Church, 3 Clow Place, Hamilton - 7pm  
Contact: Sue Rowe 021 0335979

**Friday, 11 August:** Moss NZ Friends of Israel, Wellington - 7.30pm  
Contact: Joanna 022 1547865

**Saturday 12 August:** 150 Ferry Rd, Christchurch - 7pm Contact: Simone Burford 027 2873673 or Rebecca Marchant, NZ Friends of Israel 02102242515

**Sunday, 13 August:** Greenlane Christian Centre, 17 Marewa Rd, Auckland - 2pm  
Contact: Trish Nicholls, Israel Focus Group 09 6387789 or Bryce Turner, Christians for Israel 021 577 233

✪✪

### Auckland Synagogue Greys Ave - 20 August

Hadassah International and the Israel Focus Group have been invited by Rabbi Friedler to a personalised tour and talk at the Auckland Synagogue. This is a fundraising event for a New Zealand Room at the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

Bookings are essential. No admittance without a ticket. Entrance donation \$20 per adult, discount for children. Information & tickets available: trishnicholls@xtra.co.nz.

✪✪

### Welcome Back Israeli Ambassador Dr Gerberg Monday 4 September 7.30pm Topic: Israel, India & Innovation

All Christians are welcome to celebrate and thank God for Dr Gerberg's return to New Zealand. The programme includes Nick Field, Senior Pastor of The Street City Church, Bryce Turner, Christians for Israel, NZ and Dr Ate Moala, Organiser of Prayer for Israel at Parliament in April 2017.

This event will be held at the Street City Church, Hania Street, Wellington.  
Phone Ian Clark 0274 489 089 to obtain more information.

✪✪

Welcome to our 'What's Happening' column, where you will find events happening in your area.

If you have an event that you would like to advertise, email Cathy Coldicutt: newspaper@c4israel.org or go to our website 'What's Happening' page. Be sure to include the name of your event, where it is being held, date and time.

N.B: The publishing of an event is up to the discretion of Christians for Israel NZ.



Ocean Beach, Whangarei Heads

## Holiday Accommodation in Whangarei

84B Mill Road (driveway Brighton Road)

- Two bedroom self contained unit
- Fully equipped kitchen to cook meals
- Shower and bath, heating
- Washing machine, iron
- Own drive with 4-Square across road
- 3km to town, concrete path round river

Tariff: 1-2 persons \$70 - \$80 per night  
3rd night free, extra person \$10

Owners Barry and Lynne Ross  
Reservations or information: 021 2055 727  
Email: [lynbaz.ps121@gmail.com](mailto:lynbaz.ps121@gmail.com)

# God's Way - Or the Highway

By John Dunning, Managing Trustee, Inspirational Media

The Kingdom of God is David Pawson's favourite topic. When he spoke about it on Canadian TV, a Toronto hooker phoned in to ask how she could get into the Kingdom of God, saying she wanted to get her life straightened out. David thought; - 'Praise God, I must be preaching the right gospel!'

**The Kingdom of God is now...**

In the parable of the sower, the Kingdom

is growing on earth in the form of an ever increasing number of hearts becoming receptive to the word of God.

In it Jesus explains that we show our receptiveness by being responsive and having a 'change of heart and mind', thereby accepting His rule and authority over us. Then, in the Lord's prayer, Jesus shows we must both be forgiven and be forgiving. So those accepting His rule

increases the Kingdom of God by coming under His rule and authority.

**The Kingdom of God is also not yet...**

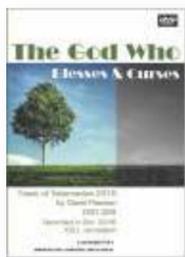
Jesus also taught us to pray to God as Father that it WOULD come on earth, saying, "...Thy Kingdom come on earth, as it is in heaven..." So the Kingdom of God already exists in heaven, and we are to pray that it will come on earth too. As Jesus taught us to pray that it will come

on earth, it means the rule of God on earth is NOT YET with us here. The Kingdom of God will come when Jesus returns. We choose now whether or not we want God's rule to be over us later.

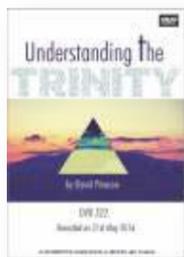
Read more on [www.inspirational.org.nz](http://www.inspirational.org.nz), and you can also buy David Pawson's DVD "The Kingdom of God", which tools us up for speaking to others and provides us with something to give away.



## David Pawson Latest DVDs



**The God who Blesses and Curses**  
1 DVD \$29.99



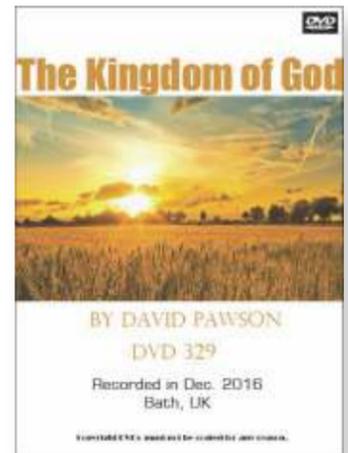
**Understanding the Trinity**  
1 DVD \$29.99



**The Other Eternity - Believers in Hell**  
1 DVD \$29.99



**Explaining the key Steps to becoming a Christian**  
2 DVDs ~~\$50~~ **\$39.99**



**The Kingdom of God**  
1 DVD ~~\$30~~ **\$19.99**

\* Special Offers Expire on 15 Sep 2017. Postage is included within NZ \*

Please post your cheque to: Inspirational Media, P.O. Box 12577, Penrose, Auckland 1642 Ph: 09 973 5234

You can also order online [www.inspirational.org.nz](http://www.inspirational.org.nz)

# Christians for Israel's Book Club

For more information on each book, for other books not advertised below, or to place an order, you can now go to our website [www.c4israel.org.nz](http://www.c4israel.org.nz) and purchase online. Alternatively complete the coupon on the back page of this newspaper and post or email it. Please include payment or pay by internet banking (*put your name as reference*).

## WHY ISRAEL?

By Rev. Willem J J Glashouwer



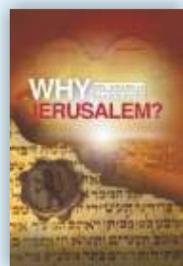
**\$20**

User-friendly for personal use or group Bible study

This book explores the Biblical significance of Israel and the Jewish people for Christians today. It looks at concepts of replacement theology, election and covenants, and shows that the Bible supports the return of the Jewish people to the land. It challenges the church to embrace and bless the Jewish people and the nation of Israel.

## WHY JERUSALEM?

By Rev. Willem J J Glashouwer



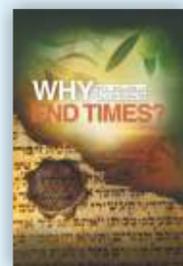
**\$20**

Includes a chronology of Jerusalem and a 3,000 year history

This book explores the significance of the city of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is a unique city - a holy place for many religions and the focus of world history. This book is part two of the trilogy Why Israel?, Why Jerusalem?, Why End Times? The author deals with a number of theological, historical and prophetic aspects.

## WHY END TIMES?

By Rev. Willem J J Glashouwer



**\$20**

This book explores God's prophetic plans for Israel and the nations

The Last Days, God's promise for Israel, False Prophets, The Mark of the Beast, The Anti-christ, 666, The Great Tribulation, The Apocalypse, The End of the Age, The Millennium, The Day of the Lord... What do these terms have in common? They are all related to the study of Biblical prophecy.

## WHY ISRAEL? TROLOGY

By Rev. Willem J J Glashouwer



**\$40**

Get 3 books for the price of 2... SAVE \$20

These challenging times ask for clear Biblical guidance. Order the Trilogy **Why Israel?**, **Why Jerusalem?** and **Why End Times?** and learn new insights on God's love and plan for Israel and the Jewish people.

# Christian Friends of Israeli Communities

Christian Friends of Israeli Communities (CFOIC Heartland) was established in 1995 as a Christian response to the Oslo Peace Accords in 1993. Christians around the world were deeply troubled by Israel's major territorial concessions and felt compelled to stand with the people of Judea and Samaria.

CFOIC Heartland provides a much needed vehicle for Christians to become better informed about the Jewish communities in the heartland of Biblical Israel, to visit

these areas and to provide practical support for vital community needs.

Since its inception, CFOIC Heartland has stood steadfastly with those Jews who are at greatest risk in Israel, those whose core values are based on Biblical principles.

Through CFOIC Heartland, thousands of Christians from around the world have become valuable friends and supporters of the pioneers of Biblical Israel. Churches, ministries and individuals have visited the communities and biblical sites of Judea

and Samaria and have connected directly with the people living there.

They have provided financial support for community projects and have made a real difference for those living in the communities of Judea and Samaria.



## Christians for Israel FREE Newsletter

Sign up to receive our bi-monthly newsletter, featuring specific news from New Zealand, upcoming events, points of interest as well as a youth corner for our younger readers.

Sign up on our website or email Cathy Eksteen: [info@c4israel.org.nz](mailto:info@c4israel.org.nz) Include name, address, phone and whether you would like to receive the newsletter by email or by post. Historic issues will be made available on our website.