



Governor of Victoria Linda Dessau with His Majesty King Charles at Balmoral Castle, Scotland. Photo: Victorian Governor's Office website.

## PASSING ON CONDOLENCES

# Victorian Governor meets King Charles

MIA GARDINER

LAST Wednesday, the Governor of Victoria, Linda Dessau, met with His Majesty King Charles III at Balmoral, Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

This was the first meeting between the Governor and His Majesty, following His Majesty's accession to the throne with the passing of Her Majesty the late Queen Elizabeth II in September.

Dessau serves as a representative of the monarch in Victoria and is the first female governor in the state of Victoria.

She became governor in 2015 and was previously a family court judge.

The monarch, who is just over one month into his reign, wel-

comed Dessau at the royal castle in the Scottish Highlands.

In a statement shared to the Governor's website it is explained that the meeting was an opportunity for Dessau to pass on condolences on behalf of the people of Victoria and to convey to His Majesty the state's best wishes for the coming years of his reign.

It is the second time the Governor has met with the monarch of the United Kingdom. In 2015, the Governor met with Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace.

Wednesday's engagement was the Governor's first official meeting while in Scotland, and she is currently on official travel at the request of the Victorian Government.

## NEWS IN BRIEF



Graffiti at a Brisbane Israeli restaurant last year.

### ANTISEMITIC SLURS Brisbane restaurant targeted

QUEENSLAND Jewish Board of Deputies president Jason Steinberg has condemned anti-Israel attacks on a restaurant in Brisbane, after the Israeli eatery was targeted for the second time in a year.

Yababa, in the suburb of Paddington, was targeted with anti-Israel slurs on social media last week after being hit by a graffiti attack on the building last year.

One of the Instagram slurs exclaimed, "@Yababa Israeli food is stolen Palestinian culture. You bury Palestinians then sell their food off as your own, You are not welcome." Another post stated, "What, stolen and soaked in blood? Sounds tempting. (There is no such thing as Israeli food)."

Steinberg told *The AJN* he was "disgusted and outraged at the hatred and antisemitic falsehoods shared on social media regarding this popular Israeli restaurant".

### 'HOMOPHOBIC DRIVEL' Aleph vs *Lamplighter*

ALEPH Melbourne has hit back at Caulfield Chabad *Lamplighter* editor Mendy Rimler after he recycled what Aleph convenor Michael Barnett called "homophobic drivels".

Late last week Aleph Melbourne, a support and advocacy group for Jewish people who identify as same-sex attracted, trans, gender diverse, and intersex (LGBTIQ+), published an article on their website denouncing Rimler and Caulfield Chabad.

The article explained that both Rimler and Caulfield Chabad should "take a more responsible approach to the content they run in their *Lamplighter* and avoid stigmatising vulnerable minorities".

"Doing so feeds into the alarming rates of self-harm and suicide for people who are forced to hide or feel bad about same-sex attraction."

The criticism is due to the use of a 15-year-old piece written by Yossy Goldman that Rimler repurposed for the cover of the September 30, 2022, Yom Kippur edition of *Lamplighter*.

### 'BUZZING AGAIN' Singalong at Lamm Library

IN the lead up to all the recent holidays, families with young children had the chance to learn and rehearse all their favourite yom tov songs with a singalong at the Lamm Jewish Library of Australia.

Led by musician Shani Weiss, dozens of parents and toddlers attended the event, hosted by the library, Habayit, Zionism Victoria (ZV) and the Zionist Federation of Australia.

"After the two years of lockdown, it's great to see the Lamm Library and Beth Weizmann buzzing again," said ZV executive director Zeddy Lawrence.

"As well as the singalong, Netzer and UJEB have both had sleepovers on the premises in the past couple of weeks and there have been various High Holy Day activities here, underscoring Beth Weizmann's role as a community centre and the beating heart of Victorian Jewry."



The singalong at Lamm Library.