Like many other Western nations, Australia entered 2003 embroiled in political controversy over the looming war in Iraq. In the lead-up to hostilities, several large antiwar rallies took place in the major cities, and parliamentary debates on the issue were heated and passionate. Once the war began in March, Australian military personnel played an important role in the U.S.-led force. Fortunately, no Australian military personnel were killed, and most of the contingent returned home shortly after the cessation of formal hostilities.

At the same time, small detachments of Australian military forces remained in Afghanistan and East Timor to assist the international rebuilding efforts, and in July, an Australian-led intervention force arrived in the Solomon Islands to restore law and order at the request of the failing Pacific island state. Despite the success of the mission, the intervention raised questions about Australia's role in the Pacific.

In domestic politics, the Iraq war and its aftermath saw support for Prime Minister John Howard's Liberal-National coalition government remain steady while the fortunes of the opposition Labor Party, led by Simon Crean, declined. In June, Crean survived a challenge from former leader Kim Beazley, but the party's standing in opinion polls did not improve in subsequent months. By the end of the year, as his closest backers began to desert him, Crean resigned. The party then elected the young and untested Mark Latham as its leader by the narrowest of margins over Beazley.

Among the minor and fringe parties, the Greens continued to attract the most attention both for their strident opposition to the war in Iraq (and to U.S. policy generally and to Israel) as well as for stunts like heckling visiting President George W. Bush on the floor of Parliament in November. The fortunes of the far-right populist One Nation party continued their descent from the heights of the late 1990s. In August, party cofounders Pauline Hanson and David Ettridge were both sentenced to
three years in jail for electoral fraud. But less than three months later their convictions and sentences were overturned on appeal, and the pair released from prison.

The devastating Bali bombings in October 2002 (see AJYB 2003, pp. 560–61) cast a long shadow throughout 2003. Aside from horror over the act itself, in which nearly 200 were killed, 88 of them Australians, intense interest focused on Indonesia’s trials of the bombers. The guilty verdicts and death sentences handed out to Amrozi bin Nurhasyim, Imam Samudra, and Ali Ghufron (alias Mukhlas) were greeted with approval and relief, even though Australia itself had no capital punishment. The relatively light sentence given to Muslim cleric Abu Bakar Bashir came in for criticism from the Australian government.

Two Australian nationals alleged to be Al Qaeda operatives, David Hicks and Mamdouh Habib, remained in detention at Guantanamo Bay. There were also terror-related concerns at home. The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) and the Federal Police began investigating the activities of a French national, Willie Brigitte, for links with Al Qaeda and Lashkar-e-Toiba, a Pakistan-based Islamist terror group. Brigitte, who married an Australian, lived undetected in Sydney for about four months before being deported, and apparently attempted to activate terrorist cells for large-scale attacks on Australian soil. He subsequently underwent extensive interrogation in France.

Israel and the Middle East

Political debate on the Middle East in 2003 focused primarily on the war in Iraq and its aftermath, but the Israeli-Palestinian question not only came up frequently in the context of these discussions, but also remained a moderately important topic in its own right. The Liberal-National coalition government remained among Israel’s closest diplomatic allies, while also continuing to support the establishment of a Palestinian state and backing President Bush’s “road map” strategy. The leadership of the opposition Labor Party, while opposing Australian involvement in the Iraq war, took a similar approach to the government on Israel. But some Labor backbenchers, as well as some representatives of smaller parties in Parliament, vociferously criticized Israel and the government’s position on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The government sent a small number of troops to support regime change in Iraq on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 1441, which threatened “serious consequences” if Iraqi noncompliance with ex-
isting resolutions continued. Australia sent around 2,000 troops, including the crews of two small Navy warships, a small contingent of FA-18 Hornet aircraft and pilots, and, most important, about 500 soldiers from Australia's highly regarded Special Air Services (SAS). Many of these special-operations troops were inserted into western Iraq in small units before the outbreak of fighting, and according to one statement by President Bush, may have fired the first shots of the war on March 18. These units struck both Iraqi command and control facilities in Iraq's western desert, and also suspected missile sites. Their actions arguably prevented any Scud missile launches against Israel, as occurred in the 1991 war.

Considerable parliamentary debate preceded Australia's decision to join the war. In early February, the Labor opposition argued against the government's support for use of force in the absence of an additional Security Council resolution, arguing that while Saddam—a brutal dictator and potential danger—stood in violation of UN resolutions, his overthrow required an unequivocal call by the Security Council. Many members of the smaller opposition parties and some independents went further, arguing against force under any circumstances either because of its alleged illegality, the potential consequences, or because such action would amount to "war for oil."

A number of parliamentarians, largely Labor Party backbenchers and independents, claimed that Iraq was being singled out even though Israel was also guilty of ignoring Security Council resolutions, especially 242. One backbencher, for example, stated, "If failure to comply with UN resolutions is the test for war, there are a few other candidates . . . Israel is in defiance of a 1967 resolution, Resolution 242, which requires the withdrawal of its armed forces from the territories it occupied following the 1967 war." And an Independent MP implied the war was being fought for "oil interests and pro-Israel interests." In the course of the Iraq debate other criticisms of Israeli policies were raised, but Prime Minister Howard insisted: "It remains a great tragedy that the courageous efforts of Ehud Barak, the former prime minister of Israel, who offered Palestinians the great bulk of their demands, were ultimately repudiated by the Palestinian chairman, Yasir Arafat."

Barak himself visited Australia in March and received an extremely warm and attentive reception in Canberra, where he held meetings with the prime minister, the opposition leader, and other senior figures from both sides of the aisle, and spoke to more than 60 parliamentarians at a dinner hosted by the Australia-Israel Parliamentary Friendship Group.

On the Labor side, opposition leader Simon Crean made a major
speech on international terrorism and the Middle East to a gathering sponsored by several major Jewish organizations in Melbourne on August 31. He called Israeli security a "cornerstone" of peace and said the Palestinian Authority was not doing enough "to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure and to disarm and arrest people associated with the extremist groups." He continued to make similar statements through the rest of the year.

Important visits to Israel in 2003 were made by former Labor leader Kim Beazley in April; Kevin Rudd, the shadow foreign minister, in June; and Peter Costello, the federal treasurer and a man widely viewed as a future prime minister, in September. Costello's visit focused primarily on economic relations, but on his return he told a journalist: "It's bringing an end to terror that is going to advance the "road map" to peace. I don't think it's at all realistic to think that you can advance discussions on land at a time when indiscriminate acts of terror and violence are still occurring." A delegation representing the governing coalition made a study visit to Israel in December.

Trade Minister Mark Vaile visited Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates in December. The focus of his trip was Australia's traditionally heavy trade in agricultural products with the Middle East. Australia established a trade facility for exporting wheat to Iraq in October, and the agriculture minister from the provisional Iraqi governing council, Dr. Abdul Amir Al-Abood, visited Australia in November to discuss trade and aid. An Australian farming expert, Trevor Flugge, was serving as chief agricultural adviser to the coalition's provisional authority in Iraq, responsible for trying to rehabilitate the country's farming sector.

Australia got into a trade dispute with Saudi Arabia in August 2003, when Saudi authorities rejected a large shipload of Australian live sheep on health grounds. After some difficulty finding a taker, the shipment was eventually donated to Eritrea. Australian reports suggested that the health complaints were spurious and that the rejection was otherwise motivated. In response, Australia suspended its live sheep exports to Saudi Arabia and attempted to renegotiate arrangements for such trade.

Relations with Libya, interrupted in 1987, were renewed in 2002, and Australia reopened its embassy in January 2003 after a visit to Australia by Seif Qaddafi, son of Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi. Australia's deputy prime minister, John Anderson, leader of the National Party (which primarily represented rural and agricultural interests) said that Australia had "formed the judgment that Libya is no longer a supporter
of terrorism.” Seif Qaddafi, however, told the Australian newspaper (Jan. 10) that he supported the September 11 attack on the Pentagon, but not on the World Trade Center. Woodside Petroleum, an Australian oil company, signed a major oil exploration deal with Libya worth A$140 million in November.

In the UN, Australia voted for General Assembly resolutions slanted against Israel on “Jerusalem,” “the Golan,” “peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,” and “Special Information Program on Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat.” It abstained on several others, and, in contrast to its behavior in previous years, voted against two important resolutions, one to fund the “Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People”—whose sole purpose was to issue one-sided denunciations of Israel—and another to condemn the security barrier Israel was erecting and send the issue to the Permanent International Court of Justice in The Hague.

Australia was elected deputy chair of the UN Human Rights Commission for 2003, and Foreign Minister Alexander Downer promised to use the position to advance an agenda of “reform of the human rights treaty bodies.”

The biggest domestic controversy of the year concerning the Middle East was the award of the Sydney Peace Prize to Palestinian activist Dr. Hanan Ashrawi. The prize is given annually by the Sydney Peace Foundation, a body associated with Sydney University. The Jewish community was outraged not only at the decision to honor Ashrawi, but also at the determination of Bob Carr, premier of New South Wales (Labor)—one of the country’s most important political leaders outside the federal sphere—to award the prize personally. Supporters of Ashrawi and Carr, however, accused the Jewish community of censorship and intimidation, and invoked the image of a powerful Jewish “lobby.” Much of the media treated Ashrawi almost as a saint, ignoring her negative record on peace with Israel, and attributed the Jewish community’s objections to its alleged opposition to a two-state solution. But the nation’s prime minister and foreign minister, as well as several other government ministers, questioned the appropriateness of awarding a peace prize to Ashrawi, and no senior figure from the Labor Party spoke up in favor of Ashrawi or Carr. The Liberal opposition in the New South Wales parliament explicitly criticized Carr.

In the wake of the Bali bombing of October 2002, there was considerable discussion about Australian vulnerability to terrorism. On June 16, Parliament voted to ban the Lebanon-based international terror group
Hezbollah, with the only opposition coming from the Greens. Then, at a special session in November, Parliament banned the military wing of Hamas and the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Toiba. Controversy continued about the scope of existing antiterror legislation, as the government wanted to make it easier to ban suspect groups, a step that, under current law, could only be done if they were first designated as supporters of terror by the UN or by special act of Parliament.

**MEDIA BIAS**

As in previous years, there was evidence of anti-Israel bias on the part of the public broadcasters—SBS TV and ABC radio and TV—and the Canberra Times, Sydney Morning Herald, and the Age. The coverage of the latter two newspapers deteriorated markedly when Ed O'Loughlin became their Middle East correspondent in place of Ross Dunn. The papers published by News Ltd showed greater balance, as did the commercial television and radio networks, with the exception of “Sixty Minutes,” a public-affairs program on the Nine network, the leading television network. “Sixty Minutes” ran a feature by Richard Carleton claiming that the whole world regarded Israel’s occupation of the West Bank and Gaza as illegal, and portraying the settlements as the primary cause of violence.

SBS and ABC continued to air news reports that painted Israel in a negative light. For example, they provided no context to explain Israel’s military actions against Palestinians, focusing completely on the suffering caused by these actions. An SBS report on three years of violence managed to exclude any mention of suicide bombings. ABC correspondent Jane Hutcheon in particular was a consistent source of one-sided reporting. Commentators appearing in the newspapers and the electronic media were overwhelmingly anti-Israel. They were also strongly opposed to the war in Iraq, and often covered both issues in the same piece by claiming the U.S. hypocritically allowed Israel to get away with ignoring the UN, while punishing Iraq for the same offence.

Many—though hardly all—of the television documentaries about the Middle East portrayed Israel unfavorably. SBS went so far as to show the discredited Palestinian propaganda film Jenin, Jenin, which claimed that Israel massacred Palestinian civilians in that city in 2002, albeit directly after showing a more balanced Israeli program on the issue. SBS also showed Mossad’s Hit List, a French documentary that alleged that Israel used the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre as a pretext to target Pales-
tinian leaders, and Dead in the Water, which presented as fact the discredited conspiracy theory that Israel knowingly attacked the American spy ship USS Liberty during the Six-Day War. SBS did also show the excellent Israel—In Search of Peace, 1948–1968. One SBS program, "Dateline," regularly aired anti-Western, left-wing views on international affairs. Stories included a positive report on the International Solidarity Movement and numerous sympathetic interviews with Arab representatives and others critical of Israel.

The ABC showed the BBC documentary Israel's Secret Weapon, which painted Israel's alleged nuclear program in the most sinister light possible, charged that Israel had used poison gas against Palestinians, and completely ignored Israel's need for self-defense. (This show was what led Israel to cut its ties with the BBC in June, as noted above, p. 281). Another British documentary shown on ABC, The Killing Zone, claimed that the IDF deliberately killed foreign peace activists and journalists. The "Four Corners" program on ABC TV ran a story about the allegedly inordinate impact of neoconservatives on U.S. policy by staff reporter Jonathan Holmes. Holmes felt it necessary to emphasize that "the young neoconservatives were almost all Jews," and that one was a "lifelong Zionist."

As in other countries, the media generally did not call Palestinians who murdered Israelis "terrorists," preferring terms such as "militants," "radicals," or "activists." Israeli settlements were routinely misrepresented as "illegal," while, at best, the two sides were held equally to blame for the failure to implement the "road map." Israel's security barrier also excited much negative media comment.

Notable exceptions to the anti-Israel bias were columnists Tony Parkinson of the Age, and Greg Sheridan, Andrew Bolt, and Piers Akerman of the News Ltd papers—the Australian, the Herald Sun, and the Daily Telegraph—who were well informed and open-minded.

In May, the communications minister, Senator Richard Alston, called on the ABC to conduct an inquiry into its coverage of the Iraq war. This followed his criticism of its radio current-affairs program, "AM," which, he claimed, was biased against the U.S. military. Upon completion of the inquiry, the ABC rejected 66 of the minister's 68 specific complaints.

Anti-Semitism and Extremism

The overall number of anti-Semitic incidents in Australia in 2003, 481, was slightly lower than the previous year, but still far higher than the av-
verage for the previous 13 years, which was 279. Of the 2003 total, 36 were instances of physical violence, such as fires set at synagogues, rocks thrown through windows of Jewish-owned buildings and homes, assaults on Jews in the street, and various other forms of vandalism. There were 58 reported cases of face-to-face harassment—27 percent higher than for the previous worst year—primarily verbal abuse. Another category, threats, came in the form of telephone calls, hate mail, graffiti, leaflets, posters, and abusive and intimidating e-mail.

Examination of the anti-Semitic material in the media indicated that older racist imagery of Jews, associated with the extreme right, was now supplemented by the anti-Jewish rhetoric of Islamists and the political left, for whom opposition to Israel spilled over into hostility toward Jews. On both extremes, conspiracy theories about Jewish power were common. The difference, as noted by Jeremy Jones (*The Review*, March 2004), was “that anti-Semitism mouthed by people who are seen to be part of a broad left or progressive segment in Australia seems to escape the censure that is not only due but which comes automatically to racism voiced by people perceived to be conservative or right-wing.”

**Extremist Groups**

Extremist and anti-Semitic groups in Australia varied greatly in their memberships, activities, and target audiences. Most of the better-known Australian groups maintained links with foreign extremists such as militia movements in the U.S., Christian Identity churches, the Lyndon LaRouche organization, conspiracy theorists, the Australian League of Rights, and others.

The Adelaide Institute, a loose conglomeration of admirers of self-styled “Holocaust revisionist” Dr. Frederick Toben, disseminated vicious and malicious anti-Jewish propaganda. Following a complaint about Toben’s Web site in 2001, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission ordered him to “remove the contents of the Adelaide Institute Web site from the World Wide Web, make a public apology to the complainant and undertake not to publish any such material in the future.” Toben challenged that judgement in 2003. His appeal was heard by the full bench of the Federal Court, which unanimously rejected it, ordering him to remove the offending material and pay court costs.

Undaunted, Toben continued to participate in international gatherings
of Holocaust deniers, including in the U.S., where many of the speakers made overtly anti-Semitic comments. Toben also spoke at an anti-Jewish conference in Iran. Meanwhile, the modifications made on his Web site were deemed insufficient by many of his critics, who gave serious consideration to launching contempt proceedings against him.

The Australian League of Rights was once described by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission as "undoubtedly the most influential and effective, as well as the best-organized and most substantially financed, racist organization in Australia." With a now largely geriatric membership that still drew inspiration from the moribund Social Credit movement of the 1930s and 1940s, it continued to hold meetings, conduct action campaigns, and seek publicity for its anti-Semitic assessments of domestic and international affairs. With founder Eric Butler now retired and in failing health, Betty Luks, the organization's director, continued to publish its weekly newsletters, monthly magazines, and a quarterly journal, and maintained a Web site.

The Citizens Electoral Councils (CEC) continued to distribute large quantities of literature reflecting the views of Lyndon LaRouche. These included bizarre anti-Semitic conspiracy theories targeting Jewish and antiracist organizations in Australia. Jews in Victoria, the Canberra vicinity, Western Australia, Queensland, and New South Wales complained during the year about literature distributed by LaRouche's propagandists, who were especially active on college campuses. The LaRouche cult was plagued by internal disputes, in the course of which information came to light about its inner workings. Obsessed with the idea that Australian Jewish leaders were delegated to carry out certain tasks by an international conspiracy, LaRouche's followers had sought to influence elected officials to take steps against Jews.

The deceptively named Australian Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) continued to advocate Holocaust denial, with most of the group's public announcements aimed at protecting the "rights" of Holocaust deniers and other extremists. John Bennett, the group's motivating force, was on the editorial advisory committee of the Journal of Historical Review, published by the notorious Institute for Historical Review in California.

In most cities, small groups of neo-Nazis, unaffiliated with any formal organization, were active, sometimes including violent skinheads. These bands were little more than antisocial gangs that used ideological slogans to rationalize their thuggery. They mainly targeted Asian students and members of left-wing groups.
**Demography**

The most recent census figures, those for 2001, showed a growing Jewish community. There were some 84,000 Australians who indicated that they were Jewish, about 0.44 percent of the total population of 20 million and 4,000 higher than in 1996, when the previous census was conducted. The actual number of Jews, however, was undoubtedly higher. Religion was an optional question on the census form, and Jewish community leaders believed that as many as a quarter of the country’s Jews—many of them Holocaust survivors who continued to fear being identified as Jews—did not answer it. The actual number of Jews, then, was probably around 120,000.

Melbourne was home to the nation’s largest Jewish community, followed by Sydney. The census also showed that most recent Jewish immigrants to Australia came from South Africa, and that Hebrew was the preferred language at home for 6,000 Australians.

**Communal Affairs**

The major organizations of the community carried on their activities under veteran leadership. Jeremy Jones continued as president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ), the representative body of Australian Jews, and Ron Weiser as president of the Zionist Federation of Australia. Mark Leibler was national chairman of the Australia/Israel and Jewish Affairs Council (AIJAC), with Dr. Colin Rubenstein as executive director. AIJAC maintained its close association with the American Jewish Committee. Stanley Roth continued as federal president of the United Israel Appeal, and Michael Naphtali as head of the Jewish National Fund.

**Education**

More than half of all Jewish children aged 4–18—including almost 70 percent of those aged 4–12—received full-time Jewish education in the 19 Jewish day schools in Australia. Spanning the religious spectrum, these schools continued to rank at the highest level for academic achievement. This reflected the community’s major investment in the schools as a means of preserving Jewish continuity. Day-school enrollments con-
continued to grow despite ongoing concerns over high costs and the challenge to the community to find new sources of funding.

There was an increased emphasis on adult education, largely under the influence of the Melton Program, which had nearly 500 students in Sydney and Melbourne. Short-term courses utilizing guest lecturers also proved popular. Top priorities for the future, according to Australian Jewish educators, were expanded Jewish studies on the university level, and teacher education to provide quality faculty for the day schools.

On the college campuses, the Australasian Union of Jewish Students (AUJS) continued to play an active and effective role, particularly in combating anti-Zionist and racist manifestations and in promoting Israel-visitor programs for Jewish students. In late 2003, a national academic support group for Israel, Australian Academic Friends of Israel (AAFI) was established. The initiative came from a number of Sydney-based professors and support staff.

**Interfaith Dialogue**

Close cooperation between the different Australian religious communities in 2003 produced a number of joint statements condemning racism and intolerance, both in general terms and in reference to specific dangers. The Executive Council of Australian Jewry, the National Council of Churches in Australia, and the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils once again repeated their joint call for religious tolerance. A number of Christian groups and representatives of the Baha’i faith condemned anti-Semitic attacks, and Jewish groups joined others in condemning racism against Australian Arabs and the vilification of Muslims.

Various Christian bodies were important proponents of diversity and intergroup harmony, often in concert with the Jewish community. The Uniting Church in Australia, a major Protestant body made up of former Presbyterians, Methodists, and Congregationalists, continued its decade-long series of regular conversations with the Jewish community aimed at combating prejudice. For the Catholics, the Australian Bishops Conference similarly maintained its formal dialogue, now in its seventh year, with the ECAJ. There were also welcome signs of movement in the direction of better relations between Jews and the Anglican leadership, which, in previous years, had harshly criticized Israeli policies.

In its dealings with these groups, Jewish leaders urged the other religious bodies to assert moral leadership against anti-Semitism by refusing to allow racist and anti-Jewish spokesmen to rent out their premises,
and advising clergy and lay leaders not to share platforms with known extremists.

Culture

Notable among the many Jewish cultural organizations operating in Australia were the Melbourne-based Jewish Museum of Australia and the Sydney Jewish Museum. Both these world-class institutions maintained extensive permanent collections of Judaica and Holocaust memorabilia, and also mounted specially-themed exhibitions from time to time. In addition, they hosted numerous cultural events such as literary evenings, book launches, and musical and dramatic presentations. Adelaide’s Jewish community maintained a virtual museum, the Adelaide Jewish Museum (www.adelaidejmuseum.org).

The annual Jewish film festival, held in Sydney and Melbourne, continued to attract large and enthusiastic audiences.

Personalia

In January 2003, the government conferred Australia Day Honors on several prominent members of the Jewish community. Prof. David Cooper, Prof. Doreen Rosenthal, and Victor Fonda were appointed Officers of the Order of Australia (AO), the order’s second-highest honor. Cooper helped establish HIV-Netherlands-Australia-Thailand (HIV-NAT) to conduct HIV clinical trials in Southeast Asia; Rosenthal promoted understanding and research into adolescent health and HIV/AIDS; and Fonda was a founder and life governor of the Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce. The oldest Jewish person to be honored was 100-year-old Barney Rosenblum, who received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for 76 years of service as a member of the choir and honorary librarian of the Great Synagogue, Sydney.

Members of the Order of Australia (AM) awards were conferred upon Peter Wertheim, for service to the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies, Executive Council of Australian Jewry, Sydney Jewish Museum, Jewish Communal Appeal, and the Joint Committee for Jewish Higher Education; Sylvia Gelman of Melbourne for service as life governor of the National Council of Jewish Women of Australia and past president of Victoria’s National Council of Women; and Franz Moishe Kempf of the Adelaide Hebrew Congregation for his contributions to printmaking and art.
In addition, the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) was awarded to Eva Fischl, who was president of Jewish Care, board member of the Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants, and governor and benefactor of the Jewish Communal Appeal; Shirley Lowy (wife of prominent businessman Frank Lowy), founding chairperson of the Chai Foundation that provided emergency relief to disadvantaged members of the community; and Eva Joel for 50 years of service as a founding board member and fund-raiser for the Kew Hebrew Congregation and involvement in the work of the National Council of Jewish Women.

The annual Queen’s Birthday Honors awarded in June 2003 recognized the contributions of several other members of the Australian Jewish community. Prof. Robert Baxt received the Order of Australia (AO) for his legal role in the fields of trade practice, taxation, and corporate law, and as former chairman of the Trade Practices Commission. Neurosurgeon Alex Gonski was awarded the Order of Australia (AM) for contributing to the development of neurosurgery services, surgical techniques, and for his teaching. Dr. Edith Weisberg earned an AM for her work in family planning and women’s health, including cervical cancer. Several members of the community received Medals of the Order of Australia (OAM)—Zelda Feigen, Anya Gooding, Sari Browne, Barry Fradkin, Benjamin Slonim, and Abram and Masha Zeleznikow.

In 2003, the Australian Jewish community mourned the passing of Rabbi Chaim Gutnick, president of the Rabbinical Council of Victoria; Dr. Eric Stock of Melbourne, cardiologist, former president of the Australia-Israel Medical Association, and former chairman of the medical section of the United Israel Appeal; Allan Lesnie of Sydney, businessman and former Jewish representative and trustee of the Botany Cemetery Trust and Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park; Emil Braun, a former mayor of Caulfield, fund-raiser for the Montefiore Home for the Aged, and Citizen of the Year, 1999 National Australia Day Council; and the world-renowned artist Helmut Newton, who migrated to Australia after escaping Nazi Europe.

COLIN L. RUBENSTEIN