



**Francis Logan**

**Member of the Legislative Assembly – District of Cockburn**

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture; Forestry and Fisheries; the Midwest, Wheatbelt and Great Southern. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage; Water Resources.

11 Lancaster House 250 Rockingham Road

Telephone: 9418 4649 Facsimile: 9434 1818

PO Box 26 Hamilton Hill 6163

24<sup>th</sup> September 2004

**Grateful State Remembers Project**

Dear Hendrika,

I would like to inform you about the Grateful State Remembers Program to acknowledge the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

The government will be awarding, upon application, commemorative medallions to those who assisted in the Allied victory in some way. This may have included serving in the Armed Forces, working in the war effort, or contributing in some way. The Premier and I especially want to acknowledge those women who worked in the factories or the fields or who nursed returned family members to health upon their return from the war.

A new program has also been created which will allow people alive during these years to write down their stories of those events so that they can be preserved for prosperity. The Tell Your Story program will allow people to record their experiences and have them lodged in the Battye Library with a selection being posted on the new ANZAC website.

I have enclosed an application leaflet, which will enable you to participate in this project.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Francis Logan".  
Francis Logan  
MLA for Cockburn

STINGUISHED GUESTS , LADIES AND GENTLEMEN , DEAR FRIENDS ,

I thank you for inviting me to this exhibition.

It brings back memories.

I'd like to pay tribute to the survivors of the camps , for they suffered much more than

They will never forget , and neither should we!

which Jenny Shub has written of our family is on display here , and it is exactly the way

that that period in our home life.

Life it was , with both happy and anxious days.

My parents were wonderful people. Especially our Mother must be given credit , for her patience

and grace. She had a wonderful sense of humour - always an asset in trying times!

Just one thing I would like to add to Jenny's story.

When war was going badly for the Germans in 1944 , they began a house-to-house search in

able-bodied men - to use as slave labour in Germany.

I see from my story , three Jewish people were hidden in our home.

When the search began, Mrs Cohen panicked , and became hysterical , and she refused to go into the

space below the kitchen floor. She was sure that the Germans would discover them , and

look through the floorboards.

My father reacted quickly. He took my two teenage brothers , and the three of them went out of the

house with their arms upraised. Three men from one house was a good number for the Germans ,

and they did not search the home.

When they went to Germany the train was strafed by allied planes , and my Father was injured , and

spent weeks in hospital in Germany.

When I tell this is that something happened to my Father , that I had always believed only

from books.

When I was sent in the German train with my two brothers, he had a nice head of dark hair.

Returned by courtesy of the Red Cross 6 weeks later , his hair was completely white - at

60 years of age.

PAUSE

Thank you all again for this opportunity to honour my parents.

Hendrika Meboer.

FOR 3 1/2 YEARS. UNTIL  
THE END OF  
THE WAR

**THE HOLOCAUST INSTITUTE OF W.A.**

requests the pleasure of

MRS H STAP & FAMILY

at the Official Opening by  
His Excellency the Governor,  
the Honourable Sir Francis Burt, A.C., K.C.M.G., Q.C.

of

**THE COURAGE TO CARE EXHIBITION**

Honouring rescuers of Jews during The Holocaust  
and Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the  
Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

**Patrons**

The Hon. Richard Court MLA  
Premier of Western Australia

The Rt. Hon. Reg Withers  
Lord Mayor of Perth

The Hon. Dr. Carmen Lawrence MLA  
Leader of the Opposition

*to be held at the Community Access Gallery  
Western Australia Museum  
Francis Street, Perth*

*on*

**SUNDAY 20TH JUNE 1993 at 2.30 pm**  
*Admission on presentation of this invitation*



**AUSTRALIAN  
BICENTENNIAL  
MULTICULTURAL  
FOUNDATION**  
A project funded by the Australian  
Bicentennial Multicultural Foundation

Please RSVP to the  
Holocaust Institute of W.A. Incorporated  
Telephone: 276 8730  
Facsimile: 276 8330  
by Friday 11th June 1993

# Courage To Care

## Rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust

THE JEWISH MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA  
THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF S.A.  
THE HOLOCAUST INSTITUTE OF W.A.

TO BE OPENED ON 20TH JUNE 1993  
BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR  
THE HON. SIR FRANCIS BURT, A.C., K.C.M.G., Q.C.

### PROGRAM FOR OPENING CEREMONY

(To take place at 2:30PM on 20 June 1993 at the Western Australian Museum)

1. Advance Australia Fair (Sharonne Lipman, Carmel School) *PH*
2. Dr Ben Korman, President of Holocaust Institute *✓ 92750418*
3. His Excellency The Governor, Sir Francis Burt AC KCMG QC
4. Mr John Dawkins, Federal Treasurer
5. Mr Richard Court, Premier of Western Australia
6. Fr Frank Sheehan, Chaplain, Christ Church Grammar School
7. Mrs Hendrika Stap, Righteous Gentile
8. Dr Helen Light, Director, Jewish Museum of Australia
9. Mr Michael Kailis, Director, Australian Bicentennial Multicultural Foundation

A guided tour of the exhibition will be conducted for the official party immediately after the opening.



**AUSTRALIAN  
BICENTENNIAL  
MULTICULTURAL  
FOUNDATION**

A project funded by the Australian  
Bicentennial Multicultural Foundation

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Australian Bicentennial Multicultural Foundation

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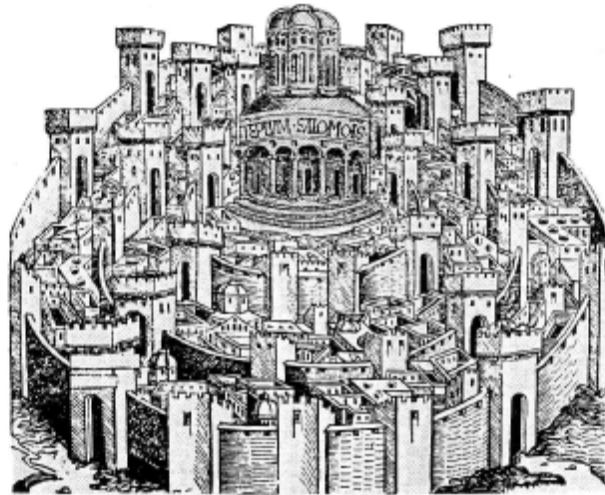
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Concept Exhibitions  
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ק ר נ ק י מ ת ל י ש ר א ל

HIEROSOLIMA



יער השלום  
בירושלים

JERUSALEM PEACE FOREST

ONE TREE PLANTED IN ISRAEL

IN HONOUR OF

RIKKI MEBOER STAP

IN APPRECIATION

*Ed. Lore Zisman*

KEREN KAYEMETH LEISRAEL (JEWISH NATIONAL FUND)



ועד הקהילה היהודית במערב אוסטרליה

## Council of Western Australian Jewry Inc.

P.O. BOX 763, MORLEY, W.A. 6062. ✓

### HOLOCAUST COMEMORATION 1991

- 1 "Hatikva" Carmel Primary School Choir.
- 2 "Six Memorial Lights
- 3 "Kaddish" Mr. Srul Schildkraut ( a survivor )
- 4 "El Maleh Rahamim" Mr Lloyd Masel
- 5 Carmel Primary School Presentation
- 6 Youth Speaker - Sarah Carver
- 7 *Flight 210 will read*  
Yidish speaker - Mrs. Jeanette Machlin OAM
- 8 Commemorative oration - Mr. Robert Penwood QC.,  
former Director of Special Investigation Unit Federal  
Attorney General's Department.
- 9 Partisan Song led by Mr. Ivan Cohen.

\*\*\*

#### Award of Righteous of the Nations.

to  
M r s . H e n d r i k a M e b o e r S t a p  
formerly of Holland

Introduction by the President of the Council of W.A. Jewry  
Mr. Doron Ur A.M., J.P.

Citation by the Consul General of Israel Mr. Raphael Goren.

\*\*\*

Throughout the evening there is no applause -

Those wishing to express gratitude or respect to Mrs. Stap  
may file past and express their feelings to her.

\*\*\*

The Master of Ceremonies for the evening is Mr. Yaron Cohen.

CONSTITUENT OF: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN JEWRY

YAD VASHEM



יד ושם

The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority גבורה

Jerusalem, 28.6.1989

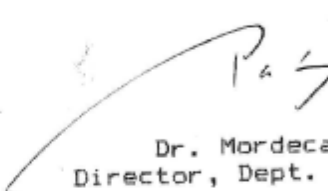
Mr. Nuy Meboer  
Oude Zwolseweg  
Wenum 7345 BC  
HOLLAND  
-----

Dear Mr. Meboer,

RE: Gerrit-Jan & Johanna Heimgartner-Meboer and  
Nuy, Gerrit, Riek Stap and Mr. L. Meboer -  
-----

We are happy to inform you, that at its last meeting the Commission for the Designation of the Righteous confer upon the above persons the title of Righteous Nations. This recognition includes the right to a monument with the right to plant a tree in the Garden of the Yad Vashem, Jerusalem.

Sincerely yours,

  
Dr. Mordecai Paldiel  
Director, Dept. for the Ri

Honour /M.P./S.O./

cc: ✓ Mr. Gerrit Meboer - Holland  
✓ Mrs. Riek Stap-Meboer - West Australia  
Mr. L. Meboer - Holland  
Mr. A. Cohen - U.S.A.

P.O.B. 3477, JERUSALEM 91043, TEL. 531202, TELEX 26573 YADVA יד ושם 531202



City of Stirling  
Office of the Mayor

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Civic Place  
Stirling WA 6021  
Telephone: 345 8502  
Fax: 345 3073

*Mrs H Stap*

*His Worship The Mayor  
Councillor Trevor W Clarey JP  
and Councillors of the City of Stirling  
request the pleasure of the company of*

---

*at the naming of  
Raoul Wallenberg Park  
Cnr Alexander Drive and Woodrow Avenue Dianella  
on Sunday 16 March 1997 at 10.00am  
followed by refreshments*

**RSVP 345 8502  
7 March 1997**

*Please contact Tamara - 276 8730  
to say if you are able to attend.  
Thank you.*





*Hendrika Stap speaks at the official opening of the Courage to Care exhibition.*

## Exhibition honours war time heroes

CALISTA woman Hendrika Stap was one of the speakers at the recent official opening of the Courage to Care - rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust exhibition.

The exhibition was opened by the Governor Sir Francis Burt and other speakers included the Premier Richard Court and Federal Treasurer John Dawkins.

Situated at the WA Museum, the exhibition was organised into three sections being the Holocaust, the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the Courage to Care.

Mrs Stap is honoured in the exhibition, which is a small tribute to the few, but significant people who risked their lives during the Holocaust to help save Jews.

# Heroes of Holocaust are to take top honors

By CHRIS MANLY

COURAGEOUS people who risked their lives during World War II to save Jews are being honored in an exhibition which opens at the WA Museum next week.

Thousands of Righteous Gentiles across war-torn Europe opened their hearts and homes to Jews fleeing persecution.

The penalty for those found was death.

Many have already been honored by Israel with a certificate and a Medal of the Righteous, from the Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Authority. The medals were inscribed with the recipient's name.

On one side are hands grabbing at strands of barbed wire while on the other a Hebrew inscription from the Talmud, which states: "He who saves a single being saves the whole world".

The WA Museum exhibition, *Courage to Care*, has been brought to WA from Melbourne by the Holocaust Institute of WA.

Institute president Dr Ben Korman said the plan began more than 12 months ago.

"We regard it is part of our duty to bring such exhibitions here so that people can have a proper appreciation of the facts," Dr Korman said.

"Otherwise there is a whole generation of people growing up who have no idea of what happened."

Hendrika and Gerrit Meboer will be among those honored.

Their family harbored two Jews in their home near Amsterdam from 1942 to 1945, narrowly avoiding detection.

Apart from the Germans, they also had to be aware of local collaborators, some of whom crept around houses at night listening at windows for the crackle of illicit radios tuned to BBC news broadcasts.

The exhibition will also commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising of April 1943.

The Germans occupied Warsaw in 1939 and rounded up more than 400,000 men, women and children, herding them into specific areas.

By 1943 the growing tide of deportations to the death camps had reduced the population to 40,000. The remainder resolved to fight.

Arms were smuggled in gradually until, by 6am on April 19, they retaliated.

The uprising dragged on into May before the Germans eventually succeeded.

The exhibition runs from June 21 to July 18.

● See Page 10

# War heroine helped save Jewish family

By EVAN MORGAN

A CALISTA woman is being honoured in an exhibition at the WA Museum for her part in helping to save Jews during the Second World War.

The Courage to Care Exhibition honours rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust and commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

Hendrika Stap was 15 when the Germans overran Holland in 1940 and a year later began to round up the country's Jews.

Mrs Stap lived with her parents Gerrit and Johanna Meboer and three brothers Gerrit, Nuy and Bertus in a small three bedroom house in the town of Apeldoorn.

A member of the Dutch underground, Mr Meboer decided to make his home a safe house.

Between 1942 and 1945 the family hid three Jews, Mrs Cohen and her children Tony and Nancy, who were in their 20s.

Mr Meboer explained to the whole family that they must co-

operate in helping the Cohens and the need for extreme care and secrecy.

If the Germans had discovered their secret then Mrs Stap and her family would have been executed.

Mrs Stap said they were frightened because there had been many instances of people being killed.

"We had seen people hanging from lamp-posts," she said.

The Cohens stayed indoors for the remainder of the war.

The only time they were able to go outside was on dark moonless nights, and then only for a few minutes.

In 1943, Tony developed stomach ulcers.

Under cover of darkness he was taken to a nearby hospital for an emergency operation then rushed

back to the safe house where he was nursed back to health. Several times the Cohens were nearly discovered.

On one occasion the Germans were searching each house for men to use as slave labour.

Acting quickly, Mr Meboer and his two older sons walked out to the Germans before they could search the house.

When the Dutch were liberated in 1945 the family proudly hoisted their national flag.

Their neighbours were amazed when the Cohens came out of hiding.

Mrs Stap came to Western Australia with her husband Danny Stap in 1950.

In recognition of her courage, Mrs Stap was awarded a Certificate of Honour from the Israeli Consul General at the Perth Jewish Centre in 1991.

The Courage to Care Exhibition runs until July 18 at the WA Museum.



• Calista woman of courage Hendrika Stap. MEBOER



# Woman honoured for hideaway heroism

By STACEY MOLLOY

FOR 3½ years during the height of World War II Hendrika Stap and her family risked execution by the nazis for harbouring a Jewish mother and her two grown children.

In recognition of her heroism Mrs Stap, 65, of Callista, was this week presented with a Righteous Among the Nations Award at the Yekine Jewish Centre.

The award is made by the Holocaust Authority in Jerusalem.

Mr Raphael Goren, Israel's Consul-General in Australia, thanked Mrs Stap and her family for their selflessness in harbouring the Cohen family, whose father had already been captured.

Mrs Stap said she was 15 when her father volunteered through the Dutch underground to hide a Jewish family in his Christian home in a central Holland village.

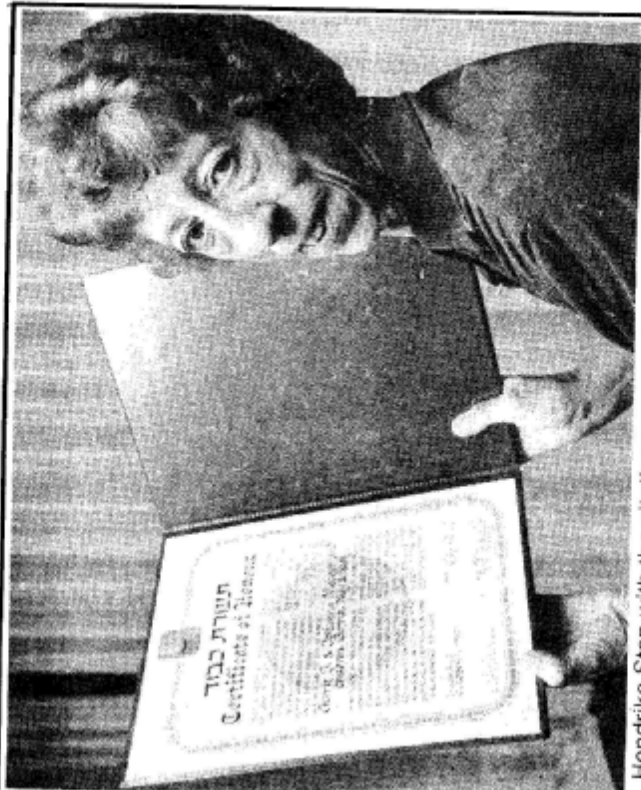
She said what made her family's contribution so unusual was that they successfully hid Mrs Cohen, in her mid-40s, her son, 26, and daughter, 28, until the end of the war.

"It was very unusual to keep them through the whole war," Mrs Stap said.

"Most Jews were turned in or captured and if they were discovered in our house it would have been set fire and we all would have been shot."

She said she was honoured to accept the award, which had already been presented to her three brothers and parents in Holland last year.

Her family keeps contact with Anthony Cohen, the only surviving family member, now living in the US.



Hendrika Stap with the citation presented to her this week for heroism in helping to harbour Jews during World War II.

**Anniversaries Engagements Birthdays**

**Wool buy**

**Anniversaries**

LUCKY  
Fancy food Meats  
Crown...

# Days of courage

I REMEMBER standing in the streets while German soldiers took my father and two others away.

By TROY RUYTER

"If they had found the Jews I wouldn't be talking to you today."

These are the memories of courageous Dutch woman Hendrika Stap (nee Meboer, see page 1.)

Between November, 1941, and May, 1945, Hendrika and her family hid three Jews — a crime carrying the death penalty under German occupation.

Holland was invaded in May, 1940, surrendering in a matter of days, but the underground movement continued to fight.

On November 21, 1941, it placed 26-year-old Jewish man Antony Cohen in the family home, a "safe house", in the Dutch town of Apeldoorn.

Hendrika was 35, the daughter of Gerrit and Johanna. She had three brothers, Nij, Gerrit junior and Sierus.

A month later Antony's sister Nancy (24) and their mother — usually known as Mrs Cohen, were also smuggled into the modest, detached front-bedroom house.

Mr Cohen had already taken food to the German machine.

For three and a half years the family and their three hideaways lived in fear — betrayal, capture and death peering over their shoulders.

"Mrs Cohen had been kept hidden in an attic, but it was not safe and she had to be moved," recalls Hendrika.

Gerrit's working late in his country led to the Meboer home being declared a "safe house."

It was not unusual for the family to be warned over a radio, hidden during Holland's occupation, listening to the BBC and picking up wireless codes which were known only to the underground.

"Sometimes at night I'd watch people outside the house and when I suspected they were part of the underground."

"Men did a surveillance job: washing, clearing and cooking. Somehow she was able to keep the peace and create a happy atmosphere — she was a very tolerant woman."

Because the streets were narrow and people could easily be seen from neighbouring houses, most of the Jews were allowed close to the windows and only on dark, moonless nights were they able to step outside.

These occasions were short-lived, each only being allowed outside in turn and for no more than 10 minutes.

"At one stage Antony developed a stomach ulcer and was in serious pain," Hendrika said.

"In desperation, I then contacted underground fighters, who disguised as Germans, picked him up."

He was taken to a doctor whose he underwent



• The German army machine marches triumphantly into yet another crushed European country, an all-too-familiar sight during the war.



• A portrait of the Meboer family, including future husbands and wives, after the war.

surgey before being returned home.

Despite the great danger, acute shortages of food and finance, Hendrika is able to recall some light-hearted moments during Holland's darkest hour.

"One night we all went to an uncle's birthday and I forgot the keys. When we returned the Jews wouldn't let us in because they thought we were German trying to trick them. It was the only time I'd ever got cross with them."

"On another occasion an uncle, one of the 'house guests' walked into the kitchen where Nancy and I were washing dishes."

"Luckily she happened to be behind the door and my quick thinking enabled her to retreat upstairs."

At the end of 1944 a German program intended to the arrest of Gerrit and his two children, Nij and Gerrit junior.

"It was a very frightening experience, there was a machine under the kitchen floor for the Jews to hide in, but they were too scared — they thought the Germans would shoot through the floor."

"In the end dad decided to take the Jews of the two girls and with my mother, marched out side with his arms raised in the air."

"This prevented the Germans from searching the house and saved the Jews."

On the way to Germany the train was attacked by the R.A.F. seriously wounding Gerrit.

He returned home in February, 1945, a couple of months after his sons. I saw that your British and US soldiers marched into town; neighbours unable to believe their eyes when three Jews walked into the streets to celebrate alongside them."

High above the jubilant crowd, on that modest house, flew the Dutch flag — the first time in four years.



• The Meboer family home in Apeldoorn, Holland. These Jews were successfully hidden from the Nazis.

