

# JNF Celebrate milestones with meaning: choose JNF donations in lieu of gifts

**G**enerosity goes beyond simply giving; it creates a powerful ripple of hope that inspires future generations to dream bigger and act with compassion. By embracing the spirit of giving, we not only uplift those in need but also instil values of kindness in our children and communities.

In the Australian Jewish community, it's common to commemorate special occasions – such as birthdays, weddings and anniversaries – by giving gifts. However, there's a beautiful alternative that can make your celebration even more impactful: consider asking for donations

Every donation, no matter the size, helps support the most affected communities in Israel.

communities in Israel but also experience the joy of knowing you've made a positive impact.

Take, for instance, the inspiring stories of two members of our community who recently chose to celebrate their milestones through JNF donations.

For her 100th birthday in June, Pauline Shaw opted to direct gifts towards the Nitzana Ecological Park, a project that reflects her deep passion for the environment. Located in one of Israel's most remote areas, this park will transform an old wastewater treatment facility into a vibrant oasis, featuring picnic areas, cycling trails and playgrounds, while also attracting migratory birds. Pauline and her late husband, Mark, were long-time JNF volunteers dedicated to supporting Israel's development.

Their legacy of giving continues through this meaningful project, demonstrating how a milestone can become a catalyst for positive change.

Another heartwarming example comes from David and Shoshana Newman, who recently celebrated their wedding on Lag B'Omer at the Great Synagogue. Deeply moved by the devastation in the kibbutzim of Be'eri and Nachal Oz, they chose to invite their guests to contribute to JNF's mission to heal Israel's south instead of receiving traditional gifts.

Their wedding became a celebration

to the Jewish National Fund (JNF) in lieu of traditional gifts. As we collectively find creative ways to support Israel, particularly in rebuilding the southern regions, JNF provides a meaningful opportunity to honour significant life events while contributing to the resilient spirit of Israel. When you choose to mark a simcha with a donation to JNF, you not only help



Pauline Shaw's 100th birthday.

of love and hope, uniting their family and friends in a shared commitment to support the communities in need.

If you're planning a special occasion, consider reaching out to JNF to learn about projects that resonate with you. Every donation, no matter the size, helps support the most affected communities in Israel.

For more information on how to celebrate your milestone with purpose contact 1300 563 653, [info@jnf.org.au](mailto:info@jnf.org.au) or visit [jnf.org.au/share-my-simcha](http://jnf.org.au/share-my-simcha).



Wedding of David and Shoshana Newman.



UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

## Mazeltov on your Simcha!

For a Bar or Bat Mitzvah that embraces traditional values in a modern, inclusive setting - visit a Progressive synagogue

For details of our congregations throughout Australia, New Zealand and Asia, visit our website to view the interactive map at the bottom of our Home Page:

[www.upj.org.au](http://www.upj.org.au)





Your own gifts in lieu page will be ready in minutes.

## Make Your Simcha a Beacon of Hope and Healing for Israel

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