



International Holocaust Remembrance Day 27 January 2026

Speech: Carmel Levy, Co-MC, Wellington

We were raised with our grandparents' memories. They shared photographs and showed us the numbers tattooed on their arms — living proof of atrocities we once believed could never be repeated. For our generation, the Holocaust was not distant history; it is present in our homes, spoken in familiar voices, and carried in the bodies of those we love.

Soon, these witnesses and their voices risk fading from lived memory into history lessons and museum walls. This moment places a profound responsibility on us — to become the bridge between those who endured the Holocaust and those who will know it only through what we choose to preserve and pass on.

At a time when social media and propaganda can distort truth and normalise hatred, bridging generations is no longer symbolic; it is essential. We must safeguard these testimonies not as relics of the past, but as living lessons — lessons of human rights, equality, coexistence, and acceptance — carried forward with integrity, so that memory remains human, and history remains a warning.