



ELWOOD SHULE

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2024 Presidents Report

I would like to thank our Rabbinical team led by Gavriel Fogelgarn, Ronny Kowadlo, our paid staff, volunteers, trustees, our daily minyan attendees and my fellow board members for their service to Elwood Shule during 2024.

2024 was a difficult year for Jewry around the world reeling from the 7th October 2023 attack on Israel. Although Israel gained the upper hand in the war, the world wide antisemitism attacks have been unprecedented even here in Melbourne where Adass Yisrael Shule was firebombed. Both Federal and State governments have done nothing to alleviate the situation and in some instances have been the ones who have poured more fuel on the antisemitism fire.

High Holydays were once again well attended on the first day of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur with assistance from Rabbi Dovid Rubinfeld.

The highlight for Elwood Shule during 2024 was the induction of Rabbi Gavriel Fogelgarn to the role of senior Rabbi. The induction ceremony was a great success and well attended by the wider community and Members of Parliament.

Our plans to refurbish the hall have stalled due to the high cost of building and we may need to reconsider altering the current plans which will come at a high cost to carry out a smaller renovation or fundraise additional money.

Our finances remain stable as all expenses keep rising, thanks to our investment strategy.

We must look at ways to increase participation in our weekly Shabbat services and events during 2025 and remain relevant.

Mark Kuran
President