

Abuse doco sequel set to air

JOSHUA LEVI

CONVICTED child sexual abuser Daniel "Gug" Hayman reveals that he was sexually abused as a child in a new documentary that will be screened on the ABC on Tuesday night.

Hayman, who speaks publicly for the first time since being convicted of indecent assault of a person under the age of 16 by a person in authority, met with child sexual abuse victim, and victims' advocate, Manny Walks for the *Breaking The Silence* documentary.

"I hope and pray, that just like God forgives someone who truly repents and changes his ways, so too the victims can forgive and move on with their lives," says Hayman, who was convicted of sexually abusing a victim known as AVB.

Director Danny Ben-Moshe told *The AJN* that he spoke to Hayman for hours on the phone before he agreed to be interviewed.

"Initially he only agreed to go in visually, but not have any audio, to show that he was willing to meet with a victim."

"We then put to him that it was his opportunity to share his words and he agreed to speak on camera."

In another controversial moment in the documentary, Walks tries to confront one of his alleged abusers, knocking on the door of his residence



Manny Walks and AVB outside the County Court in Melbourne where the Royal Commission hearings into Child Sexual Abuse were held.

in New York.

Ben-Moshe recalled it was a tense few hours waiting to see if the alleged perpetrator was home and then confronting the man.

"It wasn't something that we did lightly," Ben-Moshe said. "We thought through all of the potential scenarios that might happen, including a shouting match, the potential for violence or maybe the man coming out and apologising, which would have been a wonderful climax for the film."

Breaking The Silence is the second of two documentaries directed by Ben-Moshe and produced by former *AJN* editor Dan Goldberg that look at historical allegation of child sexual abuse at the Yeshiva Centre in Melbourne and Yeshiva in Sydney.

The first, *Code of Silence*, won a Walkley Award for best documentary in 2014.

Breaking The Silence is on ABC at 9:30pm, October 27. To watch *Code of Silence*, visit vimeo.com/ondemand/codeofsilence.

Queensland milestone

GARETH NARUNSKY

THE Queensland Jewish Board of Deputies (QJBD) will celebrate 150 years of organised Jewish life in the Sunshine State with a cultural festival and gala dinner next month.

Also in planning are a suite of activities in regional Queensland as well as the publication in 2016 of a book covering the community's milestones and some of its key identities over the years.

QJBD president Jason Steinberg told *The AJN*: "It's a very significant milestone, that a small community like ours can deliver Jewish life continuously for over 150 years and I think it's really special that we take a moment to celebrate that."

"Our institutions have remained solid, and our synagogue for example, which was built 130 years ago, remains in continuous service and has done since that time."

He added: "It's worth acknowledging that over the last 150 years Jewish people in Queensland have played a significant role in the fabric of Queensland society, whether it be in political life or academia or business or medicine, or the arts, welfare, or sport."

The celebrations will kick off with the cultural festival, JFEST QLD, at the Mount Coot-Tha

Botanical Gardens on Sunday, November 1.

"We're very conscious of the fact that a lot of people in South East Queensland don't know any Jewish people," Steinberg said. "To break down those barriers we're opening up to the whole population of Brisbane and Gold Coast to come along ... it's a chance for people to come and experience Jewish food, dance and traditions."

Meanwhile, a gala dinner will be held on Sunday, November 15, with prominent Jewish businesswoman Jillian Segal as guest speaker. Representatives of federal, state and local government will also be present.

Steinberg encouraged ex-Queenslanders and others to show their support.

"We're a community of around 8000 people in South East Queensland, I think if you looked at how many people have left, and the families that they've created, I think we'd be a community close to 40,000 people."

"We would love for ex-Queenslanders to come up and join us at either the dinner or the festival, or even just send us an email of support."

More info: <http://jq150.jewishqld.com>.

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The Kollel Beth HaTalmud Yehuda Fishman Institute is a TECSA-accredited institute offering a double Bachelor's course in Talmudic Thought. The Kollel also runs a wide range of programs for the whole community, including evening classes on Jewish topics, the PLP University program (sponsored by the PRATT FOUNDATION) and jInternship Israel Trips. There are also learning programs for the whole family, including a Youth Program.