

Courage to Care heads north

GARETH NARUNSKY

AROUND 3000 Queensland school-children from 150 schools will experience the Courage to Care program over the next three weeks in Brisbane.

The exhibition, which educates students about the dangers of prejudice and discrimination by exposing them to survivors of the Holocaust and their rescuers, was officially launched last week in conjunction with Brisbane Catholic Education.

Chairman Andrew Havas applauded his interfaith counterparts for bringing the exhibition north of the Tweed.

“The Catholic Education Archdiocese has invited Courage to Care to put on this exhibition for them ... and they actually sent one of the people that interacts with Courage to Care to Yad Vashem,” he enthused.

“It’s made major inroads between the [Queensland] Jewish Board of Deputies and the Catholic community. So it’s left a major legacy in Queensland.”

Queensland Jewish Board of Deputies president Jason Steinberg echoed Havas’s sentiments.

“I attended the launch at which various senior members of the Catholic Education Department spoke. And they speak so eloquently about the Holocaust and with real

feeling,” he said. “I think that the fact that they invited Courage to Care to come to Queensland and have essentially supplied all the space and the relevant resources that are needed is just terrific.”

Steinberg recently returned from the World Jewish Congress in Budapest where he witnessed hate and intolerance in the street.

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Professor Peta Goldberg
Australian Catholic University

“Programs like Courage to Care actually can combat and be a deterrent against that kind of behaviour,” he said.

“The overall theme of Courage to Care is that no matter what religion you are, when you see something that is unjust and wrong, you have the courage to actually stand up.”

He said the exhibition had attracted Jewish volunteers from all over Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast.

Speaking at the launch, Professor of Religious Education at the



Honouree Adele Rice (left) with PhD student Jo Besley, who assisted in setting the exhibition up in Brisbane.

Australian Catholic University Peta Goldberg, who is not Jewish, spoke passionately about the Holocaust and the importance of those who chose not to be bystanders.

“In a world of total moral collapse there was a small minority who mustered extraordinary courage to uphold human values,” she said.

“Programs like Courage to Care teach us that every person can make a difference.”

In keeping with Courage to Care’s tradition of honouring a local person for their work in the community at each location it visits, retired school principal Adele Rice was recognised for her work with migrant and refugee students.