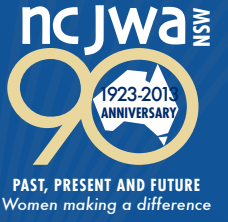
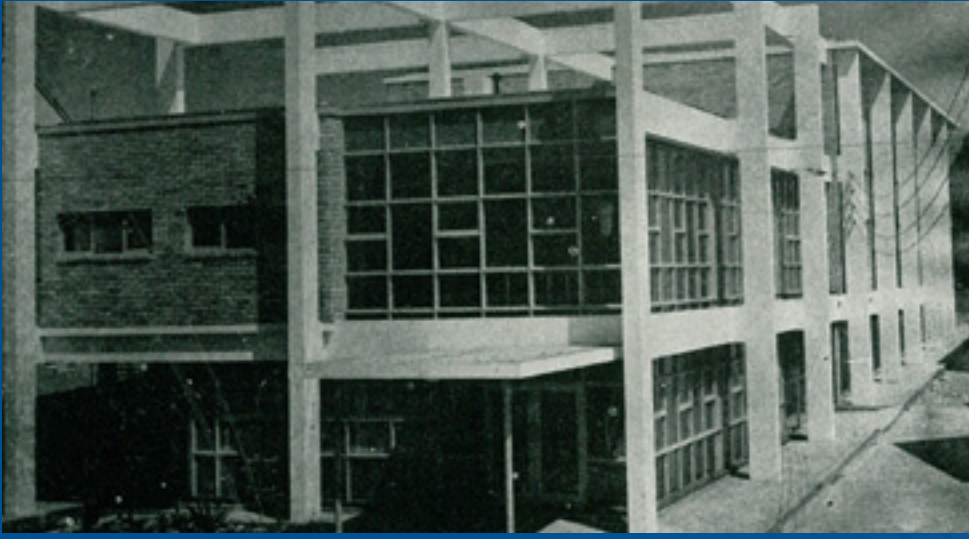


Fanny Reading Council House



“A building funded by women for women..... Working toward a united Jewish sisterhood of Australia” (Dr Fanny Reading)



Council House 1960's



Council House Today

- The first Council meetings were held in foundation members' homes and in the Maccabean Hall, Darlinghurst. Later Council premises were in the City: Francis St (1927), Day St, which included the Men's Hostel (1928), 134 Castlereagh St (1929), 175 Pitt St (1931), and from 1944 at History House, 8 Young St.
- The Fanny Reading Council House, NCJW War Memorial Centre (Council House) resulted from years of member fundraising and no-interest loans by members and friends. The building was officially opened at 111 -113 Queen St. Woollahra in 1963.
- Special areas of Council House were dedicated by families of Council women: The Sarah Rosenbaum Hall, The Annie Whitefield Foyer, The Redelman Hall, The Dora Wolfensohn Garden. The NCJWA offices and reception area were donated in memory of Fanny Adler, Esta Roland and Meta Bayer.
- In 2011, the Rebbetzin Jana Gottshall Memorial Library was opened at Council, a gift of the late Rebbetzin's family.
- During the 1980s, the NCJW NSW Board redeveloped the Queen St property to include a commercial section. In 1990 two shops were built on the ground floor, all office space was relocated to the first level, the kosher kitchen refurbished, and a lift installed.
- Redevelopment funding in 1990 and again in 2011 was sought from Council members and friends, whose names are listed on an Honour Board in the Board Room.
- The hall, with kosher kitchen, is used for Council functions, meetings, education and community service work. It is also hired out for Jewish lifecycle functions and to the wider community. The Yamaha grand piano bought from proceeds of a guessing competition in the 1990s, enables classical recitals to be held.
- Council work has also been carried out in regional areas, including Newcastle and Wollongong, as well as local groups in Sydney.
- Throughout its history, thousands of Jewish women (and men) have worked selflessly towards achieving the objectives of Council. Over the 90 years, there have been twenty one Presidents and three Co-Presidents, all women of vision and leadership.



Program at opening of Council House



Rebbetzin Jana Gottshall Memorial Library



Cooking at Council House



Ray Ginsburg AM affixing a mezuzah at Council House



Early Council Rooms

CJW - original name of organisation
NCJW - refers to National Body, now known as NCJWA
NCJW NSW & NCJWA NSW - refer to NSW Division