

**The Yizraelite – No 2166 Date: 11.7.24**

**Kibbutz Yizrael**

**Excerpts from Nadav Eyal's Speech  
to the Nir Oz Community in Kiryat Gat:**

"I come to you today as a journalist. Journalists do not speak at rallies or demonstrations. Their job is to report. But when Nir Oz asks, one must come. And I came to deliver a personal message This report is owed to you, paid for in blood. There is no place where Zionism was realized like Nir Oz, and no place where Zionism failed like Nir Oz. October 7th was the peak of the failure, but it began long before that... The failure was in the policies of Netanyahu's governments over the generations, which saw Hamas as a strategic asset to thwart the Palestinian state... I came to report to you that there is a chance for a deal. And tonight, the door is wider open than any other night for many months... No less important, the deal is the result of a few people in the defense establishment who did not give up and were not willing, come what may, to let the possibility of returning the hostages be missed. I came to report to you what I have already written and reported: The most senior officials involved in the negotiations are convinced that the Prime Minister and his people, in cooperation with the extreme right, tried to thwart a deal, for political reasons. The senior officials do not say this in the open, so that they can continue to influence from within, so that they can bring back the Israelis who are now in the heart of a living hell. But do not be mistaken, they do say this and dangerous, toxic fuel has long since permeated the holy mission of returning our hostages. These are days of tragedy. In my opinion, the greatest tragedy is not the surprise of October 7th in the initial attack. A tragedy, no less significant, is what happened in the first hours when you cried out to us from the

shelters and the forces did not manage to arrive. But the greatest tragedy is the hostility, the animosity, and sometimes the violence against the families of the hostages. The product of an endless machine of poison and incitement, of such intense political hatred that it managed to neutralize the most basic empathy for people who just want to see their father, their child, their grandfather, at home. The families of the hostages are going through this living hell, not only the endless anxiety for their loved ones but also the feeling that some of their fellow citizens, with the support or encouragement and silence of the current political leadership, have turned against them. The families have become “the enemies of the people”. And the truth is that the families of the hostages have become scapegoats. They are a constant reminder of the sin that the State of Israel has committed against its citizens. They have become the lightning rods of the extreme nationalism. **I want to report to you the facts: In the face of incitement, we must remember that a large majority in Israel believes that returning the hostages is currently more important than any other goal.** This majority is growing, not shrinking as the war continues, ... Therefore, under no circumstances should we give up or remain silent for one moment. Much is said about the price of a painful deal and the release of terrorists, and cessation of the war. We must talk about the incomprehensible, incalculable price if the hostages, those who are still alive, are not brought home because the deal somehow evaporates or explodes. And I tell you more than that, senior security officials say that even if there were no hostages, even then, the Israeli interest is to go now for a ceasefire deal... You are Nir Oz, the place where there was no state. where the terrorists annihilated all life. As if we did not establish anything here – no army, no police, no sovereignty. You cannot be preached to anymore. **The entire government should have stood before this community, on its knees, and asked for forgiveness...** If the hostages do not return, if we give up on them, not only will we not be able to look into your eyes, but we will also not be able to look ourselves in the eye. Bringing them back is not a sacrifice or a deathly difficult decision. It is the easiest decision. Not only because of morality or sentiment. In this harsh and terrible region, in front of the heavy gates of Gaza, and the equally heavy gates of Lebanon, in front of all those who seek our lives – what do we have, besides one another? What do we have, all of us, if not the ancient commitment: all for one? Truly. Not as a slogan. If we give up this resolute solidarity, for which brave fighters like Arnon Zamora are willing to sacrifice their lives, what will remain of Israeli identity? What will give us the security and feeling that we have a backbone? That we are all here together. Whoever thinks these are just slogans, thinks that Israel is just a slogan, and he is the one who has lost hope, and I, and you too, we have not lost hope in Israel’s future. There will come a day when Nir Oz will be rebuilt by those of you who want to return there. How and when – that is your decision. In my view, and in the

view of the members of Nir Oz and their well-wishers, you are the sovereign owners of the most symbolically important settlement for the future of the project called “The State of Israel”. You will decide, and then maybe we will sit again on the porch on an autumn evening. But first – **we need to bring them home.**”



## **Message from Yifat Assaf Regarding the End of her Term of Office:**

I am concluding my role as secretary at the end of two terms (six years). The end date, as already announced, is this coming weekend, July 11, 2024.

Due to my planned return to school, this date was chosen to allow me a vacation and time to prepare for my new job.

During the transition period, which will last about two weeks, Erez, Maor, and Kinneret will continue to serve as contacts and provide assistance. The public is welcome to freely reach out to them.

Until my replacement and even after, I will not disappear. I will help as needed and ensure a smooth and responsible transition of duties.



## **“Hiring and Firing in Maytronics”**

### **Invitation - Meeting on Members' Work at Maytronics**

All members who have worked at Maytronics in the past, those currently working there, and all other interested members are invited to an open discussion on members' work at Maytronics. The meeting will take place:

**On Sunday, July 14, 2024, at 18:30 in the Moadon**

**(Note change of time and place!)**

(Hiring and firing policy and anything else the members would like to raise – Ed)

Kinneret Govrin



## Hosting Kibbutz Bar'am

On Tuesday of this week (16/07/24) from 17:00-21:00, we will host the community of Kibbutz Bar'am at the pool. Bar'am has been displaced from their homes for 9 months already.

At the beginning of the war, the community of Bar'am relocated to a hotel in Tiberias. However, as time passed, many families left the hotel for more suitable accommodation.

They are coming to us for a communal reunion, which they so desperately need.

For any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

With hope that we will always be on the giving side, and that all the hostages and soldiers will return home quickly 🙏

Tal Wolfson-Darom.

(Please follow Kehilanet for pool closing times – Ed)



**KIBBUTZ MANARA**

**קיבוץ מנרה**



To Yifat Assaf, the secretary of Kibbutz Yizre'el,

Following the events of the seventh of October, and out of concern for the security of the residents of Menara, the community of Menara was forced to evacuate the kibbutz. This was the first time, since the founding of the settlement, that the entire community of Menara was evacuated. Over the past nine months, we have been facing a challenging reality: the dispersed community of Menara is scattered throughout the country, and we are trying in every possible way to preserve the communal existence and the special bond among the community members.

When we left Menara, we did not think that even the opening of the summer vacation event would be held away from home. We searched for a place where we could hold the event, and your response to our request was immediate and wholehearted. All our

requests were granted, and even beyond that. The event itself was emotional, contributed to the community's resilience, and provided momentum for the continuation of our journey.

On behalf of the Menara community, I would like to thank the entire community of Kibbutz Yizrael for your significant and moving contribution. Special thanks to Irit Mor, who helped us organise the event and was the liaison for all our requests.

Heartfelt thanks to Eyal, Ron, and Tzafnat, the dedicated life guards.

Huge thanks to the youth of Yizrael, who were there for us throughout the entire event, from its inception to its conclusion, you are champions!! We wish for the release of the hostages, and the safe, swift return home of all our soldiers and displaced residents.

Best regards,

Yochai Wolfson

Manager of the Kibbutz Menara Community



## **"Blessings for the Bar Mitzvah Group – 5.7.24 – Yifat Assaf**

Doron, Noya, Avigail, Naomi, Eitan, Inbar, Dror, and Harel - the "Maayan" group

All of us need an evening of joy and excitement, of hope and optimism. And here you are, in the prime of your youth, celebrating and excited - inviting us to join you. Thank you for that.

You have had a challenging year, along with our entire country. Surely you have felt the events. They have accompanied you in your tasks and in the general atmosphere. Nevertheless, you did it, and with great success. You experienced, learned, grew, invested, and here you are, a wonderful group completing a significant chapter in the life of the kibbutz - a chapter that is a long-standing tradition on Yizrael. Some of your parents went through it just like you, even with the same tasks in some cases. We have seen you grow throughout the year, experiencing significant events, growing and maturing, transitioning from children to adolescents.

You are a special group that loves being together. You initiate social events for yourselves, you know how to accommodate and accept each other, to help those who

need the group's assistance for a moment, and know how to complement each other. All of these are gifts for life that you have received.

On this festive evening, our dear ones, as you enter the age of adolescence, especially against the backdrop of the days we are all going through, I hope that you will increasingly appreciate all the good things you have been blessed with, that you will acknowledge everything around you, and there is so much. You have your group, and family, friends and a community. You are blessed with plenty of good people around you, who always want the best for you. There is a wonderful education system, green fields, freedom to do, choose, be, rejoice, and simply be children, growing up to become adolescents. May you know how to share all this goodness and abundance with those who have less, may you be good and loyal people, always committed and caring for your surroundings. Honour every person and open your hearts. Be modest and happy with what you have. Always strive to be seeing good and doing good, and if possible - preserve a little of the innocence of childhood, the simple pleasures and questioning eyes.

Your home, Ylzrael, will continue to accompany you, believe in you, help and support whenever it is required. It is our privilege that you are here with us and.

Congratulations to the happy families, celebrating with you today, with hearts full of pride and love.

Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Shimrit and Sharon, and to the education system for an unforgettable year.

May your ma'ayan (spring) always flow, bringing with it clear waters of renewal, of life, of peace, reconciliation, and hope, for you and for us.

Congratulations to you,

With love - from Ylzrael

Yifat Assaf



## **Message from the Social Education Coordinator, Adi Goldstein Ilan,**

Adi expresses gratitude and pride towards the group "Ma'ayan", comprised of Abigail, Eitan, Doron, Harel, Noya, Naomi, Inbar, and Dror. Adi reflects on the growth and

development of the students from their early days at Gan Alon, highlighting their individuality and unity as they faced challenges and changes throughout the year. She acknowledges the dedication of the educators and parents in nurturing the students' dreams and ideas. Adi thanks everyone involved in making the special day a success and emphasizes the importance of supporting each other and maintaining positivity as they continue their journey of growth and maturity. Adi concludes with well wishes for ongoing success and unity, expressing love and pride for the Ma'ayan group.



## **Message from the Parents**

Parents find great comfort in their children during difficult and painful times, such as when the country is in turmoil. The children bring light, hope, and a new future, forming a close-knit group of youth who love each other and want to spend time together. Although it's not easy to adjust to the independence and opinions of youth, parents are proud of their children's growth and support them as they find their place in the world. The parents wish their children success in all aspects of life and remind them that their love is a source of strength to lean on. Communication and mutual respect are key in the parent-child relationship.

Tze'ela Baran Shkolnik



## **"Completed and Fulfilled"**

### **Farewell words from Yifat Assaf**

That's it... I have completed six years in the role of the kibbutz secretary. The most amazing role there is. A role of great beauty. Complex, challenging, fascinating, empowering. For six years, I came joyfully to the office every morning. For six years, I made every effort to do good, and in those six years, I certainly made many mistakes as well. I was delighted again and again with the opportunity that the role allowed me to listen and to help. Sometimes I succeeded... when a person entered my office in distress and left with a sense of relief, calmer. To be there for the Yizrael public, to do something for our kibbutz. I paid the price and made the sacrifices willingly, because it was for the sake of our home. What a privilege it is to be in a position of influence, to lead, to create, to innovate, to think about how to improve this place that is so dear to

me. To constantly move between the individual good and the collective good. To look at things systemically, and to make decisions that are right for this place and its future, and at the same time, to worry about the details. Yes, many times there is a conflict between the two. I tried to contain the contradiction and hold onto the complexity by breathing deeply.

Years of corona, of war, of the passing of many dear members, who were a significant part of the landscape and fabric of the place. Years of making improvements in organisation's professionalisation, with the establishment of the new organisational structure, which allowed many people to rise to leadership positions, and to better handle every area and field. Years of staff turnover, and an uncompromising effort to stabilise the team, to protect, to assist, to lend a hand and to work together in a pleasant and good atmosphere - because a team that is good for each other is a good team for the public.

I tried to provide a platform for all opinions and desires, to address every position with genuine empathy, and ultimately, to bring the issues to the the public... sometimes despite my personal interests.

I tried to soften hard hearts. Unfortunately, I did not always succeed.

I believe that in the coming years, we will need to choose what is truly important to us, and make compromises, because there is great heterogeneity among us. In my years of service, I believed that we are the sum of our decisions, and that there is no substitute for the wisdom of the Yizrael public, which has repeatedly proven itself. Today I understand that the time has come to discuss our identity for the next decade. We are a multi-generational society, with different needs, preferences, and values. There is room for bold discussion and decision-making. I believe and hope that we will discover that we have a lot in common.

The role allowed me to use my stronger skills, and it was a wonderful feeling. In areas where I am less comfortable - I could always seek advice. Many were partners on the journey and were happy to help.

Thank you for the trust and support (twice). Thank you to my office mates for the collaboration and openness. For the laughter and tears. For the humanity and shared reflection. Thank you for the privilege of being there for you and with you.

Thank you to the questioners, challengers, - thanks to you, I became more precise. Thank you to the signatories on petitions - yes, I didn't like signature lists, but I received an important lesson in democracy from you. And to a number of members



who chose to cut personal ties with me due to decisions that were professionally necessary - I am only human. I offer you my extended hand in peace.

We live in a true nature reserve, and the effort to preserve it as such, alongside the effort to update it and adapt it to the outside world - is nothing short of amazing. Our strength lies in evolution and openness, together with preservation of our unique lifestyle and principles. A constant search for the right balance between past and future, between preservation and change, between the common good and the individual good, between community and individuality.

Our country is going through such a difficult period, with unfathomable amounts of pain and loss. May we know how to find peace in the chaos, at least in our own hearts. May we rejoice in our good fortune, and be blessed with many achievements and all that we have. May we learn to appreciate and cherish our life together. Let it Be.

Yifat Assaf



## **Management Committee Meeting Protocol - July 3, 2024**

Present: Jeremy Perling, Sigal Hadar, Ron Cohen, Tzachi Tzfadia, Natalie Zinenko, Yifat Assaf

### **1. Establishment of an Economic Team for the Community (Invitees: Erez and Maor)**

Jeremy proposed the establishment of an economic team to advise on economic issues for the community management. Erez and Maor expressed the opinion that there is no need for an additional team and suggested utilising existing members for economic advice. It was decided, notwithstanding, to form an advisory team for economic matters consisting of Erez, Maor, and three members from the Economic Council. Maor and Erez will choose them.

### **2. Recommendation for the Implementation of the Profit Key 2025-2027 (Invited: Elad Ilan)**

- Erez presented the community management's recommendations regarding the profit key.

It was decided to remove the section related to the transfer of pensions to the community from the "key" issue and discuss it separately.

The committee's recommendations will be brought to the asefa,

### **3. Establishment of a Community Strategy Team.**

- Yifat presented the goal of establishing a strategic process for the community. It was decided that the steering team for the strategic process would include two members from the board and three members from the community management.

### **4. Discussion on the appeal process re the vote counting on the issue of “Special Cases” in the Food branch. (Guest: Shlomo Cohen)**

- Jeremy presented the topic of the appeal process, and after discussion, it was decided to accept the community management’s decision not to bring the issue to the asefa).

**Note:** The Management Committee reminds the public that it is the responsibility of each member to read the background material for asefot in advance, to understand, to ask questions, and to know what they are voting on. In addition, extra attention will be given in the asefa committee to clearly formulate the wording of the votes.



## **Office Hours in the Mazkirut**

The Mazkirut is open to the public from Sundays to Thursdays from 08:00 to 12:00. During these hours, Zohar or Hedva are available. If no one is in the office, or if it is not during reception hours, we recommend contacting us via email at [reception@yizrael.com](mailto:reception@yizrael.com) and we will try to assist as soon as possible. In urgent cases, you can reach out to us via WhatsApp on our private phone numbers. Office services include: printing, scanning, laminating, updating gate permissions in "Palgate", and coordinating meeting rooms. Appointment scheduling with officials will be done through Hedva only.

Best regards,

Zohar and Hedva



## **Asefa Report - July 8, 2024**

Chairman of the Asefa: Shlomo Cohen. Asefa Secretary: Uri Gilad

Attendees: 37 members

## **1. Appointment of Natasha Tchernikovsky as the Manageress of the Reserve Fund**

The appointment was presented by Elad Ilan. Elad defined the role of the fund manager, the requirements of the position, and Natasha's suitability for the role: "Natasha has extensive experience in accounting management, work with banks, and treasury work. She will learn together with me, and with the advisors of the Reserve Fund (Mannie Harel, Raviv Yishai) about pension aspects and investment issues. We believe Natasha has the skills to perform the role well. As the chairman, I will be actively involved in studying the material together with Natasha - Jeremy has been managing the fund since 2006 and has accumulated a lot of knowledge and experience. We will document the various processes in the fund and build work routines for its operation and control.

The board of directors of the Reserve Fund recommends to the asefa to approve the appointment of Natasha as the fund manager.

**The vote took place during the asefa via the Kehilanet. Voting result: Natasha was voted in! Congratulations!**

## **2. Allocation of land for the gas station complex**

**Ron Cohen** presented the topic, following discussions and decisions made by the Economic Council on June 24, 2024. The vote took place during the asefa via Kehilanet.

**Decision: The kibbutz asefa approves the transfer of 4 dunams of land, plots 520 + 521, to the Yizrael-Alon Joint Corporation for the purpose of expansion and business development. (71 in favour, 18 against, 5 abstentions).**

## **3. Extended Vacation Policy**

**Ishai Levi** presented the proposal of the community management on the subject, which was formulated after the previous asefa. The vacation policy came up for discussion in the asefa a number of times, and after many objections, including those requiring legal consultation, the discussion was stopped to obtain legal advice, to examine the objections raised and integrate some of them in the proposal as well as to add an appendix referring to retired members (in collaboration with Inbal Adler, the senior citizen coordinator). Ishai presented the proposed policy, including the appendix referring to vacations for members beyond working age

**Eddie Solow** presented an amendment: To cancel the vacation route up to 6 months, and in its place, there will be one uniform route from the end of the (48) accrued vacation days until two years. Voting results: 39 against, 27 in favour, 3 abstentions.

**The amendment was not accepted.**

Yitzchak Peleg explained that if a pensioner in out of the country for more than 10 months in any calendar year, the National Insurance will automatically cancel his monthly payments to the kibbutz, even though he will still be receiving his monthly allowance (According to the proposed procedure). Eddie Solow and Sigal Hadar presented an amendment: in each calendar year, in which a member above working age stays abroad and the National Insurance stops payments to the kibbutz - the member is required to complete these payments from their allowance.

**Voting results: 40 in favour, 18 against, 3 abstentions. The amendment was accepted.**

The proposed policy, as suggested by the community management, with the accepted amendment, will be brought to the vote on Sunday and Monday, July 14-15, 2024.

Shlomo Cohen and Yifat Assaf

**(Editorial Note:** The full 8-page procedure proposal was published in the Alon. I will spare you it. If you have any questions regarding the proposal, you are welcome to speak to me personally– If you need to see the details in English see “The Yizraelite” no. 2161 7.6.24 – another positive step towards saving the rain forests – Ed



## **From the Standby Team**

Hello everyone,

These times are not normal, and even if relative quiet is felt - the members of the kibbutz's standby team do not rest on their laurels.

Last Tuesday, 9/7/2024, the standby team met to discuss what we have achieved, and to discuss the plans for continued activity.

As is well known, the kibbutz's standby team changed significantly after the events of October 7th, and in the nine months since then, has been shaping up to be a fast response unit, to provide an experienced and effective defensive force for repelling terrorist infiltration in the first hours and providing a security response - until the various official security forces get here (P.G. – Ed).

The unit is the first layer of protection for the kibbutz - in an emergency.

In addition, the team provides an emergency response to a variety of events, including search and rescue, firefighting, and more.

Without going into too much detail, the standby squad operates in several reaction circles, and possesses automatic rifles and private pistols. Also, in recent months, the team has been equipped with ceramic protective vests, tactical helmets, walkie-talkies, high-quality first aid equipment and a variety of related equipment.

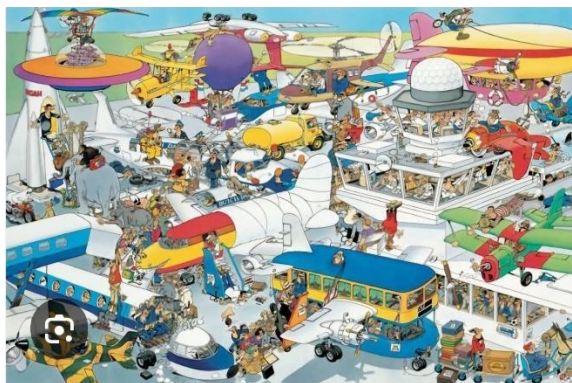
At the meeting last Tuesday, the training plan was discussed, regardless of or taking into account the training plan of the Border Police, (they tend to be very vague). We also discussed different scenarios.

I will take this opportunity to remind you that if, God forbid, you find yourselves in a security incident - do not take part in it, but report to the relevant authorities (police/Lilach), and immediately enter the protected area (Mamad – Ed).

The main concern is friendly fire through misidentification. The standby squad is trained and identified by various means known to it, (Say no more – Ed) and anyone who is not part of it may be mistakenly identified with dire consequences.

Finally, I would like to thank a very significant group of people, (who cannot be named) who give their time and voluntarily take part in protecting the community - this is highly appreciated and not taken for granted at all!

On behalf of the standby team: Adi Laviv



## **Updates on the Fight Against the International Airport at Ramat David**

**To learn more about the details, you are invited to a conference that will take place on July 21 from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the hall in Kibbutz Yifat.**

The struggle that has been ongoing for many years is now at a boiling point. The Airport Establishment Authority, Netivei Israel, together with the Transportation Department of the Planning Administration and the Ministry of Finance, are pushing hard for a decision on establishing the airport at Ramat David. The environmental

impact assessment has been submitted, and the Ministry of Environmental Protection, whose role was to review the assessment, also ruled that there were many flaws in the plan. Mainly, they stated that the establishment of such an airport would significantly harm the health, environment, food security, and safety of the region's residents. According to the report, thousands of residents are expected to be evacuated from their homes due to noise levels exceeding international standards. Their recommendation is for the "zero alternative"—meaning not to establish an international airport in the valley. And like a scene from "Blaumilch Canal," disconnected from this severe warning, notices were sent to seven communities in the valley about the need to close reservoirs and dams, and an invitation was sent to all regional authorities for a discussion in the Planning Administration titled "Implementation of Sections 78-77 of the Construction Law on the Impact Area of the Ramat David Airport." Attached is the map showing the effects of construction restrictions, agricultural restrictions, etc.—seeing is believing.



The above map marks the restrictions around the planned airport

**Gray** – The airport area itself

**Orange**: No high-rise buildings area

**Yellow** – No planting of crops likely to attract birds (Scorched earth policy? – Ed)

While in 2014, they spoke of a small airport on a 3,000-dunam area, today the figures, which the administration itself disclosed, show a huge airport, with 32 million passengers a year, affecting an area of over 600,000 dunams (X 200 bigger – Ed?). From Rechasim, through Tivon, Yokneam, Ramat Yishai, Zarzir, Migdal HaEmek, Jezreel

Valley, Afula, Megiddo, and Gilboa. (Yizrael is in the bottom right-hand corner of the above map – ED)

The practical implication is that any construction and development plan in the area of the airport, will need to be approved by the planning team, treating the airport in the valley as a fait accompli. The restrictions have dramatic implications for a range of projects in the rural area, but especially in the nearby cities where it will not be possible to promote urban renewal plans, build new neighbourhoods, and advance strategic projects in the field of renewable energy. Through joint efforts of the regional councils and the residents' headquarters, we managed to get the discussion postponed for now (**not canceled, postponed!**).

On July 1, 2024, members of the Airport Establishment Authority came to a meeting about the water reservoirs at the Jezreel Valley Regional Council. Dozens of residents from valley communities, Migdal HaEmek, Tivon, Zarzir, Megiddo, and Ramat Yishai came to protest. The council meeting was no less turbulent, with a line of experts led by Council Head Shlomit Reichman Shichor arguing before the planning team that they do not have the mandate to advance such a destructive plan without a strategic national discussion on the implications of the airport's establishment on food security, massive loss of agricultural lands, severe and disproportionate harm to the health of tens of thousands of residents, and the complete destruction of a rural area based on agriculture and rural tourism.

**A conference on this subject will be held on July 21 from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the hall in Kibbutz Yifat. Attached is a link with the speakers and registration: [Conference Registration] (<https://yizrael.ravpage.co.il/save.the.north>). You are also invited to join the activities of the protest headquarters. Here is a link to join a quiet WhatsApp group for updates: [Join WhatsApp Group](<https://chat.whatsapp.com/JMzdTkBnENq3ggMKEnZsaK>).**

Submitted to the Alon (at the editor's request) by Dr. Tzuf Moisesco-Yiflah, member of the leadership of the protest headquarters, Moshav Merhavia.





## How I Fell in Love with Football - Nir Baor



Football and I have never been friends.

I was never really a star on the field. As a child I was chosen among the last for the team that was the last to get the right to choose its players. I never really liked watching football either. A game that in a period of an hour and a half could end without a decision, bored me... as compared with the fast and intense basketball game. Nevertheless, in order to prove myself, I chose to support legendary teams such as Shimshon Tel Aviv, which was in first place for 7 games in the '89 season and a year later was relegated.

In short, despite many World Cups and exemplary players that came and went, I never really connected. I was kept up to date regarding the soccer news, mainly by my students.

I was also emotionally alienated from the long-standing conflict between Ronaldo and Messi, although as a socialist I always preferred the millionaire from Barcelona to his friend from Franco's fascist party.

Last year, I started to see football differently.

In December 2022, Shani and I went to Germany, so that Shani could undergo innovative cancer treatments there. It was a freezing winter trip to Frankfurt in the middle of the World Cup in Qatar. The games were broadcast or projected everywhere: in the doctor's waiting room, in the hospital cafeteria, on the television in our hotel room, on the taxi driver's radio, etc. At first I was quite indifferent to it and expressed a minor enough interest in what was happening, just enough to look for some black humour jokes I could crack, based on the combination of the words: "Roos Ronaldo" or "Achtung Achtung!"

But as the days passed, I started to connect in some irrational and unclear way to Messi's story. I saw Argentina knocked out and lose to **Saudi Arabia** and then get up from the floor to surge forward and win and qualify for the next stage. In the meantime, Shani went through the treatments and was amazing. I was by her side trying to give her my support and try not to show my anxiety about her health.

We returned to Israel, to the kibbutz.



Shani continued her amazing journey to recovery, while at the same time Messi and Argentina went through one step after another. Suddenly anything seemed possible, even a magical recovery for us.... and for Argentina.

I saw the final in the moadon, biting my nails and emotionally overwhelmed. I was told it was one of the best finals ever. I also felt that way... and when Messi lifted his first World Cup in the illusory dress of a Qatari Sheikh, at that very moment when I arrived home from the moadon and all my daughters were sitting together smiling and cheering in the living room - I knew everything would turn out well.

Good luck to all the teams and let's enjoy a fine Euro tournament final!

More importantly - good luck to all the brave women.

Nir Baor



### **Phil-osophia – Phil Adler**

Washington is seven hours behind us. How do I know this? Well, when the phone rang at three this morning and I heard Antony's voice over the phone I asked him "what the #&^\* is the time over there?" – he told me it was just after eight over there and that the sun was going down over the Potomac. My wife who was none too happy about being woken up so early (again) mumbled "if that's Antony it better be important or he's going to hear from me". She was still annoyed about his last early morning call asking for her yeast cake recipe a couple of weeks ago.

Antony went on to explain that Joe was a sandwich short of a picnic (he had announced he was a black woman apparently) and that the Democrats had pretty much decided to replace him as their candidate in the upcoming presidential race. How interesting I thought to myself but its three in the morning I moaned inside my head. I told Antony that I loved him like a brother but that while the sun was going down over the Potomac it hadn't as yet arrived here in the valley.

He apologised as only Americans know how to do and promised to get to the point. He explained they were looking for a candidate and would I be interested... he went on to explain that I tick all the boxes – what boxes I wondered – possibly the ones from Amazon?

'Think about it" he said – "you have a dog for goodness' sake". You would make a wonderful president.

I looked at Kiwi (the wonder dog) who was snoring at the foot of the bed as usual and wondered why this French bulldog who was only good at eating and farting could possibly qualify me to be the next President. She opened one eye and looked at me accusingly as if she could read my thoughts. Just kidding I whispered not wanting to wake up the first lady. It turns out that just about every president had some sort of pet - from George Washington (a dog called Sweetlips) to Obama (Bo an Irish water dog).

I had trouble going back to sleep – after all its not every day (or more accurately early morning) that you get offered the opportunity to run for the leadership of the western world. Surely it can't be that easy I thought. I quickly discovered that the constitution stipulates that a candidate must be a natural-born citizen of the United States, be at least 35 years' old and have been a resident of the United States for 14 years.

I was born in Hastings New Zealand not the Hastings in Oswego County New York. I am over thirty years old (though not mentally) and although I have visited the USA a number of times I certainly haven't been living there continuously. I had a feeling that Antony would have known this but had figured out a way around these problems.

A major hurdle that I could see was getting permission to take Shnat Hofesh for four years and possibly eight. In the current climate I don't think I have a chance so the logical step would be to declare myself to be an Oved Chutz. Being charged just three hundred and fifty shekels for the use of the company car aka "Cadillac One" seems like a great deal especially when you consider it does about one litre per kilometre because it is so heavily armoured. Toranut would also prove problematic and who I wondered would mow the lawn while I was away?

I needn't have worried – somebody over there did their due diligence and discovered that my father-in-law was is a Houthi. Antony sent me a WhatsApp with a middle finger emoji.



## A Concert in Memory of Yosef Gavrilov – by Stas Gavrilov



I am overwhelmed and miss him very much. This was an evening that was very important to me, an evening in memory of my beloved father...

It's been exactly three months. It was a very invested and honourable evening.

Many people helped us produce the event. Many thanks to all the helpers!!! And thanks to all the donors!!!

A fundraising concert for the "Yosef Fund", an event in memory of the late musician, educator and clarinet teacher Yosef Gavrilov. Each year this scholarship fund will support the studies of outstanding students at the Yizrael Gilboa

House of Music. Young, advanced and mature soloists played in the concert, in addition a clarinet quartet played, The clarinet quintet and the clarinet choir. Special thanks to Anna Dichin, an excellent pianist and accompanist, who is always ready to help! Credit to my dear students, who all rallied for this concert!

Thanks to Adi Reznik, Nov Cohen Schwartz, Habib Jedon, Ma'ayan Kafri Chen, Liron Yoffe and Noam Ben Abu. You thrilled the audience with your wonderful playing!

Stas Gavrilov

## My Dear Father, Our Dear Grandfather - Stella Steinman Gavrilov

We miss you very much. Today is exactly three months since we said goodbye, but you are in our minds and in our thoughts...

Not infrequently, especially in situations of elation or the opposite, when something bad happens, the hand is automatically drawn to the cell phone. The immediate desire is to call you, to say: "Dad, are you listening?" And tell you and share with you... But then you stop and realize that there is no such option anymore.

This realisation every time causes deep sadness, an abyss that has opened and there is nothing one can do about it. Yes, trying to communicate with you in thoughts and memories and talk to you in a different way. Only sometimes, it slightly soothes the pain, the longing. Missing your voice, hugging you, having you as the backbone of our family.

You were always calm, balanced, joking - this is really missing. We really, really love you. For a second, we don't forget, each of us discusses you in our heads, in our hearts, you accompany us with your image, with your smile and optimism, and with your strength. "Jerusalem is behind us" - you kept saying that, to give us all assurance that everything is firm and stable.

We love you and try to be optimistic, even in these months and the year that is so difficult for us, but also for all the people of Israel. These are difficult days, days of darkness.

And we want the light to conquer the darkness, and our hostages and soldiers to return home and our country to return to sanity.

Our dear Abush. You always knew how to put things in order, always in a good way and for everyone, so please, help us here, from above, talk to the right people so that this nightmare ends, and the light returns.

Love you very, very much

The Family. Written by: Stella Steinman Gavrilov

## **With the Memory of Yosef Gavrilov, that Lives Within Us.**

Patchy Shapira



May his memory be a blessing. During a conversation with Veronica at the Shiva for Yosef, may he rest in peace, I remembered my long-standing connection with Yosef. It began in late 1995, shortly after Stas established the Music School.

One evening, my gaze lingered on an unfamiliar figure of a man, sitting alone and surrounded by a special aura, at one of the western tables in the dining room. A few days later, I noticed him again, sitting at the same table. We are accustomed to new faces in the dining room and continue our way. But then, I was drawn to the same unfamiliar figure, the same personality with a delicate and noble aura; I was drawn to converse with him and approached his table. Indeed, he impressed me greatly.

Almost immediately, a lively dialogue began between us. Since our first meeting, I felt that he was a special person. From his words, I understood that he is Stas' father and that he brings his wife, Raisa, one of the first teachers at the music school, for her lessons here, and he waits for her to take her back to their new home in Afula. He has not yet told me anything about himself and his achievements, and his impressive life. Only a few days after our early conversations, I gradually learned that Yosef, the modest and humble man, left behind an impressive public and educational career in Tajikistan. For years, he was the head of a college, trained many students, and also served as a national supervisor for music education. And not only that. He was known in his homeland as a clarinet virtuoso.

Yosef lived for many, many years and accompanied from afar, his students in various countries, and greatly influenced the advancement and success of several prominent individuals.

The joint decision with Raisa to immigrate to Israel marked a turning point in their blessed lives. It was in 1992. Initially, they settled in Tel Aviv, where they had to start everything from scratch. Yosef then initiated another significant turning point in his life. With courage and a clear mind, he decided to detach himself from all aspects and branches of his own life endeavors and dedicate himself entirely to promoting Raisa's musical career, as a pianist and excellent music teacher. He himself became a construction worker by day and worked in a bakery at night...

From the rich traditional heritage of the Jews of Bukhara, from the rich and fertile background of their worlds in the capital of Tajikistan, Raisa and Yosef descended to an environment that surrounded them in the neighbourhoods of southern Tel Aviv, and of course to a new language and vibrant life. After a year in Tel Aviv, Yosef and Raisa moved to Afula, closer to Stas and Anna, who were building their future here, with us, in the Jezreel Valley. And then Yosef started again from scratch and became a simple labourer, a craftsman, in "Tamuz".

Indeed, the greatness of soul, strength of spirit, and nobility of character distinguished our Yosef at every stage and every chapter of his inspiring biography and that of our dear Raisa, paving the way for long and fruitful lives!"

We know and greatly appreciate Raisa, who has taught here, at the music school, generations of students. So many remember you, Raisa, for the kindness over the years as you raised them, nurtured them, and helped them flourish through a very personal connection to each and every one of them.

A covenant of fate and destiny has accompanied this "unity" of Yosef and Raisa all these years. Stella, Stas' sister, said after Yosef's passing: "You and Mom were always a complete unit for us. You were always a role model for us."

Yosef, your memory and legacy will live on within us and among your communities of students and colleagues in many lands. Blessed are we that we have been honoured to know you. Amen, may it be so!

Patchy Shapira



## **"Back to Africa, Reggae, Rastafari, and the Zionist connection..."**

In a period where South Africa is attacking Israel in the UN, and many African Americans in the US support pro-Palestinian protests...

It will be interesting to remember the days when black people around the world drew inspiration from the Zionist movement and saw it as a model to emulate.

Let's meet in the Moadon on Tuesday, July 16th at 20:30 for a unique musical journey led by Itai Shemi (Amos and Galya's son and a proud son of our kibbutz...)

During the evening, we will talk about the "Back to Africa" movement and its connection to Zionism. We will discuss the Ethiopian leader Haile Selassie and the Rastafari movement. We will listen to reggae and understand why Jamaicans on the other side of the world wear the Star of David and sing about Zion.

Itay Shemi, an international music wizard, is known to all of us from "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" in the summer of 2022, and "The Birth of Israeli Rock, Spring 2023."

By audience request, he returns to visit us again after nine days of climbing Mont-Blanc!!!

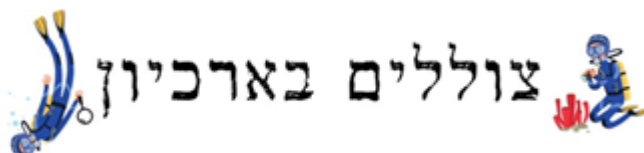
All are welcome... Ariel Brin-Dolinko



### **Let's Celebrate the (Jewish) Holidays Together!**

Once again, this year, we will organise registration for holiday teams three times a year, each time for the upcoming holidays – September-December, January-April, May-August. Registration for the upcoming holidays is already posted on the bulletin board. You can also register online using the digital form available in the community (in cultural announcements) and in the WhatsApp group "Cultural Updates."

In the digital form, you can sign up to help and participate in events such as singing, writing, dancing, and more...



### **Delving in the Archives**

In the Israel State Archives, there are documents relating to Kibbutz Yizrael, but only two of them are accessible to the public.

In a file about the Yizrael School from 1964, signed by Nitza Halevi, we inform the Ministry of Education about the opening of a local school.

The Yizrael School existed until 1991.





## **Programme for 14/07/24 – 18/07/24**

**Daily 08:30 – 12:00 – coffee, cake, chats, board games**

### **Sunday 14 July**

Opening the week with Monica.

09:10 Zoom - Amos Dotan – “Not only Security”

10:30 Ceramics room open with instruction from Ziv Ben Bassat

### **Monday 15 July**

08:00 Pedicure with Limor Mualem (by appointment only)

09:30 Lecture – Yanush Korchak – Zohar Assaf.

16:00 Or B’Givah is open for coffee and lively conversation

### **Tuesday 16 July**

10:00 Brain games and trivia with Galia Shemi

11:00 Pool exercises with Eyal Tirosh

10:30 Ceramics room open with instruction from Ziv Ben Bassat

### **Wednesday 17 July**

09:30 Nature is Blooming with Hammutal Assaf

14:00 Ceramics room open with instruction from Ziv Ben Bassat

### **Thursday 18 July**

07:00 Pedicure with Na’ama Baum (by appointment only)

10:00 Movie screening with Galia

11:00 Pool exercises with Eyal Tirosh

17:15 Exercises on chairs with Michal Sha’an



## English is Fun - with Rahel

- \* Subject: PUNNY
- \* A king, wanting to host an elaborate wedding for his daughter, raised taxes on all citizens of the kingdom, by thirty pieces of gold.
- \* Everybody paid, except for one young count.
- \*
- \* The king sent a tax collector, but the count refused. "This is unfair, and I shall not pay."
- \*
- \* The king sent the sheriff, but the count refused. "I will not support the new tax."
- \*
- \* Finally, the king had the count arrested, and thrown into the dungeon. He explained to the count that failure to pay was treason, and he would be executed. But the count still refused.
- \*
- \* So, the king had him brought to the top of the tower, with his neck on the block, with the execution's axe raised. The king asked the count to pay. He defiantly shouted! "Never."
- \*
- \* But as the executioner was about to lower the axe, the count shouted, "I agree!"
- \*
- \* But it was too late.
- \*
- \* The moral of this story!
- \* DON'T HATCHET YOUR COUNTS BEFORE THEY CHICKEN.
- \* Turning vegan would be a big missed steak.
- \*
- \* Electricians have to strip to make ends meet.
- \*
- \* Irony - the opposite of wrinkly.
- \*
- \* Just because you are offended doesn't mean you are right.
- \*
- \* Crushing pop cans is so depressing.
- \*

- \* My relationship with whiskey is on the rocks.
- \*
- \* Well to be frank, I have to change my name.
- \*
- \* Wishing you a happy which doesn't offend you.
- \*
- \* The problem with political jokes is sometimes they get elected.
- \*
- \* Araid of Santa? You may be claustrophobic.
- \*
- \* For chemists, alcohol is not a problem it's a solution.
- \*
- \* Life and beer are very similar. Just chill for best results.
- \*
- \* I have a chicken proof lawn, its impeccable.
- \*
- \* When the smog lifts in California, UCLA.
- \*
- \* Cows have hooves because they lactose.
- \*
- \* Dogs can't operate MRI, but cats can.
- \*
- \* .....MORE NEXT WEEK

## **Credits:**

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**Disclaimer:** The Edi-tor and translator does his best to provide an accurate reflection of the Hebrew Alon. Please be warned that it is not a direct translation. The original Hebrew text is the official version. This is of particular importance when it comes to decisions and procedures!! Not all the material published in the Hebrew newsletter appears in “The Yizraelite”. Considerations of length, readers’ interest and the Edi-tor’s ability to grapple with the subject matter, determine what is included.

Note: The readers are encouraged to submit for inclusion “letters to the editor” and material that does not appear in the Hebrew Alon.

