

**The Yizraelite – No 2128 Date: 13.10.23**

**Kibbutz Yizrael**

**Edi-torial**

We are all in a state of shock following the horrific events last Saturday. It seems that in every generation we are reminded that we have been chosen. As my sister Barbara, who survived the slaughter on Kfar Aza, says: “We will rally, we will rebuild and together we will get through this”.

My brother-in-law, Ralph Lewensohn was interviewed on Austrailian TV (ABC). He describes the events on Kfar Aza. I am so proud of my family:

[**https://download.wetransfer.com/eugv/d2ff82bde5c3ffc358061e92c0991e1b20231011071633/b10bdcf47818eeea1e186770615855e6c61464ad/LawrenceIV.mp4?cf=y&token=eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCIsImtpZCI6ImRlZmF1bHQifQ.eyJleHAiOjE2OTcxOTU4MzgsImlhdCI6MTY5NzE4MTQzOCwiZG93bmxvYWRfaWQiOiIxYWQ1NjczNy0wNmI0LTQyOTEtYjAzZi0wNjllN2U1NjBjZTgiLCJzdG9yYWdlX3NlcnZpY2UiOiJzdG9ybSJ9.zJdH9ovJtl6IAp-STEQUz-S3U5ZylEFPFVsNI1P00Gk**](https://download.wetransfer.com/eugv/d2ff82bde5c3ffc358061e92c0991e1b20231011071633/b10bdcf47818eeea1e186770615855e6c61464ad/LawrenceIV.mp4?cf=y&token=eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCIsImtpZCI6ImRlZmF1bHQifQ.eyJleHAiOjE2OTcxOTU4MzgsImlhdCI6MTY5NzE4MTQzOCwiZG93bmxvYWRfaWQiOiIxYWQ1NjczNy0wNmI0LTQyOTEtYjAzZi0wNjllN2U1NjBjZTgiLCJzdG9yYWdlX3NlcnZpY2UiOiJzdG9ybSJ9.zJdH9ovJtl6IAp-STEQUz-S3U5ZylEFPFVsNI1P00Gk)

**Today is the annual memorial ceremony for Dudi Silbowitz and Neil Freed. In each generation, we are reminded that we have been chosen….**

**"Beit Yizrael mourns the dead**

**and participates in the collective grief of the families and communities**

**who lost their loved ones in the massacre**

**in the Gaza Border settlements."**

**Reut Shaliv:** So it seems that the covenant our grandparents made with this land has been broken. A covenant in which we would build and protect this place, and the state would defend and protect us. The images of destruction are piling up, images of the souls lost forever, and those that will never find solace. There are no words that can describe the immense devastation."

**Friday Evening Programme:**

**(In light of the situation)**

17:45 - Special Kabbalat Shabbat on the upper courtyard area of the dining hall.

18:00 - 20:00 Quiet self-service dinner.

19:30 - Coffee, cake, and gathering in the moadon.

**Memorial Prayer for the Gaza Border Settlements**

May the people of Israel and their brothers, all over the world,

Remember all those who sang and danced to their deaths.

Remember those who arose early to witness the dawn, families out walking, who met

a fate so cruel.

Remember the parents who shielded their children with their bodies and the innocent orphaned children.

Remember those who vanished without a trace.

Remember those whose pleas for help reached distant ears, yet our arms were too short to reach out and save them.

Remember the elderly who were humiliated and abducted from their homes.

Remember the heroes who left their homes to defend their settlements and never returned.

Remember the kibbutzim and moshavim that were destroyed, burned, and turned into ruins.

Remember the city dwellers who lost their homes and loved ones in a single day.

Let humanity remember the lack of humanity, the cruelty we encountered this painful October.

May the inhabitants of this land remember the shattered dream in excruciating cruelty.

Remember - for we have no other land.

Anonymous

**My Aunty Varda, from Kibbutz Re'im,**

**Daniel Hyams-Assaf**

 She had everything – a lemon pie in the oven and geraniums in the garden,

 Gifts she sent us yesterday in the mail and others waiting to be sent,

A sheet protecting the couch from getting dirty,

And a pampered cat that comes and goes,

 Stickers on WhatsApp for every occasion,

And a kind word, written for a birthday or just to encourage,

And Ayelet and Danny, her beloved, and Boaz

And the grandsons and granddaughters

 and the newborn baby girl –

She lived for them, and they lived for her.

 She also had one special woman, a soulmate,

 A secret woman, a woman of peace, my mom, Idit,

 And they were each other's whole world.

Aunty Varda was content in her slice of heaven.

And if you didn't know her, my Aunt Varda, then you missed out on a special woman, warm and good. One whose heart was the widest and her soul the largest,

And now there's no woman like that in the world,

Aunty Varda, we all lost her.

Varda was taken away, at the age of 81,

 murdered in her home in Kibbutz Re'im on that accursed Saturday, October 7.

Daniel Hyams-Assaf

**"The Dead of Kibbutz Be’eri" by Dudu Palma**

**- October 10, 2023**

And how in the world do we bury over a hundred dead from Be’eri? This practical thought is tearing my heart into pieces.

1. In Kibbutz Be’eri, after the massacre carried out by Hamas terrorists, there are now over a hundred bodies. Beyond the horrible fact, too immense to grasp, of the unfathomable loss of life, there's a question hovering over the bodies with no answer—how on earth does a kibbutz now bury so many dead.

2. Be’eri is what's called “a strong kibbutz”. I remember the shock that struck the kibbutz movement when Kibbutz Beit Hashita buried 11 sons. Yair Rosenblum composed the powerful "Netane Tokef” in their memory and Hanoch Elbalek sang it. In “Netiv Ha’asara” they are burying fifteen. And how in the world do we bury over a hundred dead from Be’eri? This practical thought is tearing my heart into pieces. And I repeat and mourn and weep over how to bury over a hundred dead. How?

3. After the storm of Hamas passed over Be’eri, Endad Eldan, almost 100 years old, remained undefeated in his strong room. A fighter and a Palmach scout. A good friend and a rare teacher. Alongside him in the strong room, his wife Shari also survived. I cry bitterly for the dead, and with a broken heart I am happy that this couple are still alive.

5. Now, as the darkness of the east sets in, I only ask to light a metaphorical candle and place this heart-wrenching poem of Endad Eldan here. A good friend and a rare poet. Oh, what a poem, what a poet...

(I was unable to do justice to the poem. Perhaps one of our talented readers can help out and translate it for all of us – Ed)



(From Endad Eldan's book "Tied with Many Roots")

Elad Ilan

**For all Kibbutz Residents**

**War in the South / Update from the Kibbutz Movement to the Kibbutzim Wednesday, October 11, 2023**

Dear Kibbutzim,

Dark days are passing over the State of Israel and the kibbutz movement. Kibbutz communities mourn in sorrow. They are slaughtered, killed, and kidnapped. A terrible disaster that we have not experienced in our history. The pain is immense.

Our friends on the Gaza border fought courageously to save lives, to defend the border and their homes. They protected their loved ones with their bodies. Kitot Konnenut (local first responder teams made up of kibbutz members) fought courageously to defend the kibbutzim.

The price paid in blood is incomprehensible.

We mourn the loss of soldiers from the kibbutz movement in battle. We send condolences to the families and kibbutzim of the fallen. The price of blood is unprecedented and monstrous.

Since Saturday, the Kibbutz Movement's emergency centre has been operating to assist and support the kibbutzim. All kibbutzim across the country have mobilised are participating in this activity with important, touching, and endless initiatives.

The emergency centre is focusing its efforts in several areas:

* Connecting communities and families who survived the ordeal with other kibbutzim, for support.
* Professionals made available to provide emotional support and aid to the affected.
* Assisting the national effort to locate the missing.
* Providing essential help to critical sectors in the kibbutzim.
* Addressing agricultural needs.
* Preparing for the numerous funerals expected.
* Fundraising.
* Government, banking, and insurance connections.

There is no need for assistance with funerals or burial arrangements.

The centre is receiving many offers of assistance from across the country, from people of all ages and all segments of the population who want to help in some way. More than a hundred kibbutzim are hosting thousands of residents from the south, doing everything to ease and support them after the trauma they experienced there. To all of them, we send our appreciation and love.

Our hearts and thoughts are with all the heroes - the captives, the fallen soldiers, and the members of the kibbutzim, and all the residents and inhabitants of the south. Our hearts are with the security forces who are fighting with supreme effort to restore full Israeli sovereignty on the Gaza border and strike our ruthless enemy without mercy.

We invite anyone interested to contact the kibbutz movement's emergency centre: Phone: 09-9755016 Email: moked@tkz.co.il Facebook page: The Kibbutz Movement.

We are here for you, anywhere, and in every situation. Together.

 The Kibbutz Movement Management

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**Tsachi – Our Kibbutz Emergency Committee**

**A few general points:**

* We have opened a WhatsApp group for the kibbutz called "Yizrael Group." Please join. This is a group for broadcasting by the managers only, and we will use it for urgent messages only. (In the recent emergency, we encountered difficulties in quickly conveying messages through the community and the S.M.S. Within the framework of the lessons learned, we decided to establish this group).
* It is advisable, at least during the days of the war, to regularly open the Kehilanet app. Most of the information is published there.
* **We ask everyone to download the Home Front Command app to their mobile phones.** **It updates and alerts based on the person's location.**
* Thanks to everyone for the assistance, volunteering, responsiveness to every request, loaded trucks of donations, and more and more. We won't mention names, but they are many. It is touching and heart-warming.
* A culture team is preparing activities for us to strengthen our community's resilience. Details to follow.
* The working method of the Tzachi Headquarters in this emergency –

Every evening at 17:30 there is a Zoom security update from the regional council, and after it, we meet to discuss the implications for Yizrael. We report on what is happening in our area of responsibility, raise problems, make decisions, and publish a summary message to the public. We also meet as necessary at different times.

We wish our guests from the north and south, a pleasant and peaceful stay.

 To our soldiers in regular service and reserves - take care of yourselves and return home safely and in good health soon.

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**On Saturday,** we woke up to a reality that in our worst fears, we didn't anticipate. Since that moment, we have been working, thinking, listening to you and to professional security experts, trying to improve our sense of security.

We can never satisfy everyone; the sense of security is something internal and personal to each one. I will only say that the security forces of the Home Front Command and the council define Yizrael as a second or even third-line settlement, one that is not under immediate threat.

The border with Jenin is manned by significant forces, all the access roads are covered by Border Police, and the sky is continuously monitored by drone aircraft. We are constantly searching for the right path, even if not everyone thinks so, and we will try to do the best for the entire community.

Wishing us all quiet days and pleasant nights.

**Lilach Ron**

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 **Swimming Pool – opening times for Shabbat 14.10.23**

**10:00-16:00**

Lifeguards: Eddie Solow and Ron Granot

**Building Branch – Kindly Note!**

Dear Members,

We want to update that, in urgent cases, regarding the treatment of water leaks,

**On Fridays/Saturdays,** please **contact Guy Arad** , the building manager, **directly**

 **phone: 050-7998091. (Save now – Ed)**

**On weekdays,** regarding infrastructure issues, please make contact through the **Kehilanet** only.

Best regards,

Stas, on behalf of the Community Service Committee

**Change of Location for Money Distribution - Yitzhak Peleg**

We have moved to "Or B’Givah".

The opening hours remain the same - Mondays and Wednesdays from 13:00 to 15:00.

(The cakes are better at the Or B’givah Mini-Bank – Ed)

**A Peep from The Second-Hand Shop - Ofra Shapira**

The holidays are already behind us – both the summer days and the heat.

Autumn is already here with the full bloom of cyclamens in all their beauty.

In honour of this and in honour of the coolness knocking on our window, we are switching from the summer collection to the autumn and winter collection.

Please bring to the store only what is suitable for this season.

May we have better days, days of blessing and abundance.

Ofra Shapira



**Thank you very much to Jenny Udovich Kahn for the books she donated.**

 Again, this year, Jenny donated books to the library in memory of Neil Freid who made aliya to Kibbutz Yizrael in 1970.

Neil was killed in the Yom Kippur war in 1973.

Neil was married to Jenny Udovich (Kahn).

May his memory be blessed.

The books were donated in memory of her late husband, Neil Freid, who was killed along with Dudi Silbovich and Shaul Ephraim in the Yom Kippur War.

Jenny donated 'The Insect Book' and 'The Flower Book,' written by Yuval Zomer. The books, with their beautifully colourful illustrations, are rich in accessible and interesting knowledge for children.

**The dedications Jenny wrote in the books:**

**In 'The Big Flower Book,' Jenny wrote:"**

To Kibbutz Yizrael, In memory of Neil Freid.

Neil loved flowers, he worked in the cotton fields and was a true kibbutznik.

Enjoy this book in his memory.

From Jenny - who was married to him before the tragedy of the Yom Kippur war.

**In “The Book of Insects”, Jenny wrote:**

This is donated to the library in memory of Neil Freid who made aliya to Kibbutz Yizrael in 1970.

Neil was killed in the Yom Kippur war in 1973.

He was married to Jenny Udovich (Kahn).

May his memory be blessed.

**Update from the Search Team Regarding the Community Manager**

Due to the current security situation, the team deems it appropriate to suspend the process of appointing another term for Erez Peleg for the next two months until a return to routine.

In a time when our country is experiencing a profound crisis and a state of combat with much uncertainty, stability is of great importance both for the kibbutz and the kibbutz leadership.

Therefore, we will return to this matter once the situation calms down, hopefully before the end of the year.

Search Team - Ofra Shelef, Hila Alterlevi, Irit Shemesh, Amir Darom, and Kinneret Govrin

**Management Committee Meeting Report –**

 **October 9, 2023**

Present: Jeremy Perling, Ron Cohen, Sigal Hadar, Tsachi Tsfadia, Adi Goldstein-Ilan, Natalie Zinenko, Yifat Assaf

Absent: Avner Altarlevi

Agenda:

1. **Zivit Nanikashvili - Continuation of the process.**

This item is conducted in accordance with the kibbutz statutes (Takanon), which states that Zivit Nanikshvili is entitled to request a discussion of the committee (within 7 days of the notice given by the board) prior to bringing the issue for discussion to the asefa."

**Invited**: Zivit Nanikashvili, Attorney Merav Lev (representing Zivit), Attorney Omer Cohen (On Zoom).

**N.B – All the other subjects on the agenda were postponed due to the security situation in the country.**

**Proposal for Termination of Membership Due to Violation of Asefa Decisions - Zivit Nanikashvili**

In the asefa decision in March of this year, Zivit was warned that if she does not cease the various violations of the kibbutz's decisions, her membership in the kibbutz is expected to be terminated. The central violation pertains to allowing Yuval, her spouse, to reside in the kibbutz without paying maintenance expenses for himself and the children.

The formal requirement for Zivit to ensure that her spouse pays for his maintenance expenses was communicated to her in August 2022. In practice, Yuval resides in the kibbutz and does not pay a single shekel for his and his children's maintenance expenses. Even after Zivit was warned in the asefa as mentioned, no action was taken on her part to cease the violation, and Yuval's ongoing default continues.

In these circumstances and in accordance with the asefa decision from March this year, it is the responsibility of the Management Committee to bring a proposal before the asefa to terminate Zivit’s membership in the kibbutz.

The aforementioned proposal will be brought for discussion to the asefa on Monday, October 23, 2023. Zivit is entitled to request a discussion with the Management Committee (within 7 days) prior to bringing the matter for discussion in the asefa.

B**. Discussion and Decision**: Do the contentions in the lawyer's letter from Zivit justify postponing or cancelling the asefa, or should the decision made in the previous meeting on 06/09/2023 stand, and an asefa be held on the 23.10.23? Should the lawyer's letter be published to the public before the asefa?

**Points raised in the discussion and Attorney Omer Cohen's recommendation:** The lawyer's letter lacks substance and does not address the central allegation that Yuval, Zivit’s spouse, does not pay for his residence and the children's expenses. There is no reason to postpone the clarification meeting due to a lack of documents, as the basic facts are known and have been reiterated. The only reason for any delay in the asefa date could be the social/moral situation due to the events in the south/recruitment of members, etc.

**Conclusion:**

1. To publish the family lawyer's letter to the public (see below).
2. To bring before the asefa, the Board's recommendation based on her continuous violation of the asefa decisions.
3. The matter will be transferred for handling to the Asefa Committee.

**Note from Edi-tor**. If I find a way to translate the lawyer’s letter adequately, I will publish a summary next week. It appears in the Hebrew newsletter this week.

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**"The Enchanting Melodies of Music- Part I**

**Prof. Roni Granot**

**Lecturer and Researcher at the Department of Musicology,**

**The Hebrew University:**

From the community rituals of ancient tribes to mass rock concerts filling a similar role, and to the intimate experience of listening to a beloved song on the radio - music is an experience of emotion, rhythm, and movement, intertwined with aspects that define us as human beings.

In March 2020, as people in Naples, Italy, sang the Neapolitan ballad 'Abracciame' (Hug Me) by Andrea Sannino from their apartment balconies, the media and social networks quickly embraced the story, enveloping it in a romantic glow. They presented music and communal singing as a means that succeeded, even for a moment, to restore the human touch and the sense of 'togetherness' that the COVID-19 pandemic and the initial lockdown took away. Hundreds of similar initiatives emerged around the world, including in Israel, creating their own 'Balcony Songs.'

In a study we conducted in 11 countries with over 5,600 participants, those who reported participating in 'Balcony Songs' or applauding healthcare teams did indeed testify to an improvement in the sense of 'togetherness' and mood compared to others. However, the extent of using this tool varied greatly from country to country. In some, such as Spain, Italy, and Brazil, close to 30% of respondents reported participating in such activities. In other countries, such as Mexico, Norway, or Argentina, the response was much lower, standing at only 4%-8%

Regarding the power of music during times of crisis, we also learned from a comparison between the use people made of music compared to other activities to maintain a positive mood, distract from the situation, ventilate negative emotions, and reconnect with themselves. Surprisingly, we found that music almost always ranked highest among the tools used to achieve these goals. This was even though among the other tools, there were activities whose contribution to personal well-being (e.g., physical activity and meditation) is well known, or leisure and entertainment activities such as watching TV, engaging in hobbies, and eating. A vast majority of respondents answered that music is important or very important in their lives. Do these data hold any hint to the secret of music's enchantment? Not exactly. They mostly tell us that music has its magic.

To be continued in the next newsletter.

**(I am certainly going to make good use of this knowledge – Ed)**

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

**Sunday 15/10**

09:15 – 12:15 Music from the Generations – with Dr Motti Eldar (on Zoom)

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

**Monday 16/10**

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

09:30 The Art of Drawing – Chas Broadhurst

16:00 Or B’Givah open for coffee, cake and friendly chats

**Tuesday 17/10**

10:00 Trivia and board games with Galia

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

**Wednesday 18/10**

09:30 Nature is Blossoming with Hammutal Assaf

17:00 Tai-chi (advanced) with Einan Grosser

**Thursday 19/10**

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

10:00 Movie screening with Galia Shemi

17:15 Exercises on chairs with Michal Sha’anan

**Credits:**

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