

**The Yizraelite – No 2225    Date: 22.1.25**

**Kibbutz Yizrael**



**A heavy sorrow has befallen our home  
with the passing of our dear friend and member**

**Zimra Baran**

## **Mourning Arrangements for Zimra Baran Z'L**

**The family will sit shiva at the home of Zimra Baran**

**Monday and Tuesday, Erev Chag: 09:00–13:00**

**Wednesday, holiday recess: 16:00–20:00**

**Thursday: 09:00–13:00, 16:00–20:00**

**Friday: 09:00–13:00**

**The Family and Beit Yizrael**

**Reut's addition to the Hebrew newsletter.** The announcement of Zimra's passing was published after the Rosh Hashanah newsletter had already been finalised and sent for proofreading to the whole team: Zimra, Hila, Ofra, and Shlomo ("Reut, Write surnames! This is going to the archives!" I hear Zimra's voice ringing in my head, and I immediately correct: Zimra Baran, Hila Alterlevi, Ofra Shelef, and Shlomo Cohen).

I learned that Zimra had been hospitalised almost three weeks ago when I called to speak with her about proofreading matters, and Oren answered me. I continued sending her newsletters for proofreading, even though I knew she could not review them, and I hoped she would recover and return to checking them.

As is customary, the current newsletter remains as it is, but one page has been added at its beginning: the death notice for Zimra. R.I.P. (Next week we will publish the obituaries).

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## **New Year Message from the Mazkira**

The New Year brings with it a sense of renewal, freshness, and hope for good.

We so need this hope in our country, now, when we encounter evil, indifference, and the uncertainty of the future, and it is so hard to look ahead with optimism. Precisely in the face of these difficulties, we will try to turn our gaze inward, to the personal, the family, and the community.

We will see the good that is close to us: the community in which we live, the knowledge that there are those who know us, who care about us. We will remember the human strength that is here, friends, neighbours, family members, many people who wish to build, to renew, to share, and to do good.

We will bless the privilege of living close to nature, to see it change with the seasons, and to feel it as a close partner in our lives.

We will be grateful for the opportunity to do things that interest us, to act for the community and individuals, to find meaning every day anew. Let us remember to cherish every small moment: health, family, friends, shared work, meals around one table, a chance encounter on the kibbutz paths, and also the little pleasures that make up a full life.



May this year bring with it the blessings of peace, inner peace, security and calm in our hearts, creativity and cooperation.

May we continue to be a strong community, embracing and welcoming, and may we see our children and grandchildren grow up in freedom, in love and with a sense of belonging.

This year too, in our prayers for the New Year, we add a special request: to see all the hostages return home quickly, to their families. Until they all return, our hearts are not whole.

May the year 5786 be a year of blessing, peace and tranquillity for every home in Israel.

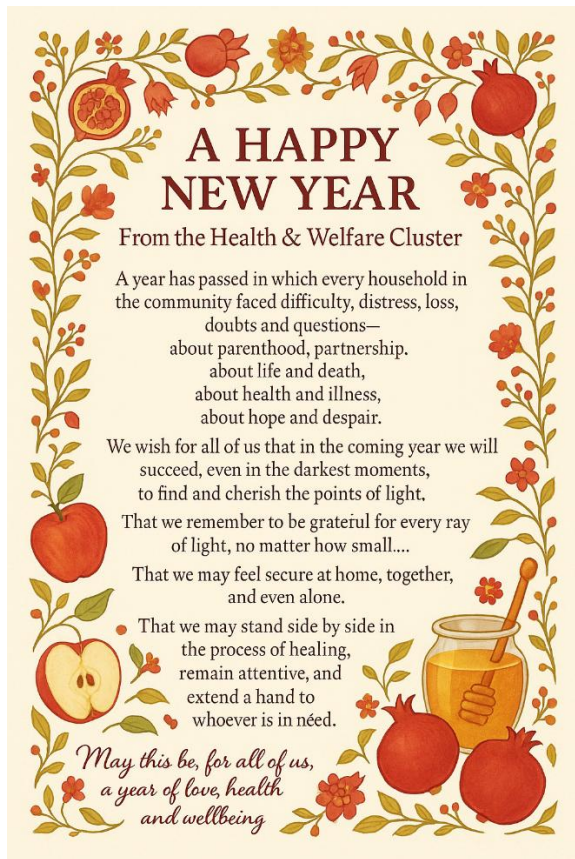
**Limor Griman**





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**From The Health and Welfare Cluster**



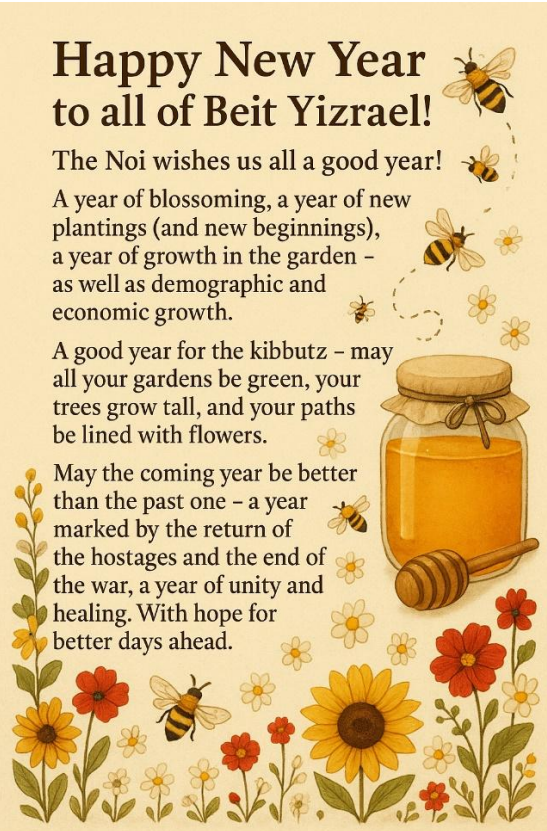
# Happy New Year to all of Beit Yizrael!

The Noi wishes us all a good year!

A year of blossoming, a year of new plantings (and new beginnings), a year of growth in the garden – as well as demographic and economic growth.

A good year for the kibbutz – may all your gardens be green, your trees grow tall, and your paths be lined with flowers.

May the coming year be better than the past one – a year marked by the return of the hostages and the end of the war, a year of unity and healing. With hope for better days ahead.



## Dear Members and Friends,

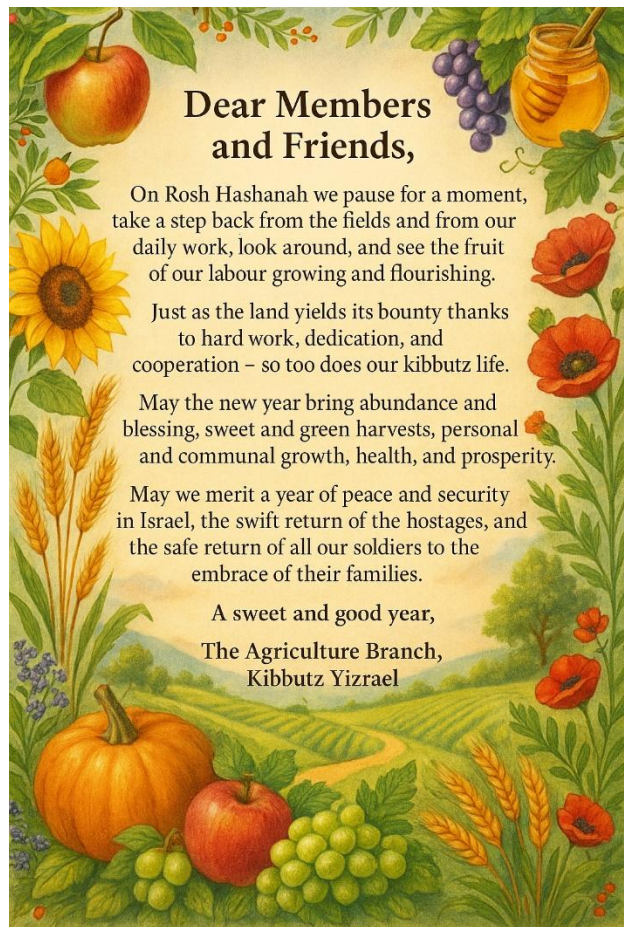
On Rosh Hashanah we pause for a moment, take a step back from the fields and from our daily work, look around, and see the fruit of our labour growing and flourishing.

Just as the land yields its bounty thanks to hard work, dedication, and cooperation – so too does our kibbutz life.

May the new year bring abundance and blessing, sweet and green harvests, personal and communal growth, health, and prosperity.

May we merit a year of peace and security in Israel, the swift return of the hostages, and the safe return of all our soldiers to the embrace of their families.

A sweet and good year,  
The Agriculture Branch,  
Kibbutz Yizrael





## To the Veterans of Kibbutz Yizrael



For the coming New Year, we want to bless you, our dear veterans, with a year filled with light, health and abundance.

You are not only part of the kibbutz; you are its very heart.

Thanks to you, a warm and loving community was built, full of values of sharing, mutual help, and faith in the future.

Thank you for every moment and every bit of devotion you have given and continue to give, for the shared experiences, and for the knowledge and wisdom you have passed on to the coming generations.

Every year we renew ourselves and look forward to new opportunities, but your knowledge and experience remain a vital foundation for all that we do. May we continue to celebrate together both joys and challenges, and may this year be filled with precious memories and shared experiences.

**A good and blessed year to you and your families!**

*From the Third Age Team*

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## Rosh Hashanah Greeting – Early Childhood Education System

The holidays bring with them a small pause in the heart of the routine that has already found its rhythm. In the Early Childhood Education system, we are privileged to raise

children within a wide and diverse

community – kibbutz parents and outside parents, staff, siblings, grandparents.

These connections are what give the children a sense of belonging, security, and continuity.



Let us all wish for a sweet year of partnership, meaningful connections and growth – for the children, for the parents and for the entire community.

**A sweet and good year,  
Yael Oster**



**30**  
BMusic

**To all our friends,  
Happy New Year!**

May it be a year filled with music, health, and joy.  
May we soon rejoice in the release of all the soldiers and hostages returning safely to their homes.

**Shana Tova!**

From the  
Yizrael-Gilboa Music Conservatory





## Happy New Year – From The Yizrael Rugby Club





## Happy New Year and G'mar Hatima Tova

### From the Library

May the books enable us, even if only briefly, to be in other places, with other landscapes and different stories.

Let us wish that the story of our lives – the Israeli reality – will be better in the coming year.

For the New Year, we placed a gift in the mailboxes: a bookmark, the fruit of collaboration between *Or B'giva* and the Library.

Thanks to Noa Armoza for designing the bookmark, to the participants in activities at Or B'giva, and to A.G. Gilad for help in preparing it.

On behalf of the Library Team:

**Reut Shaliv**

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## Rosh Hashana services will take place in the Synagogue

Erev Rosh Hashanah	18:00	יום שני 22/9 ערה"ש
Shacharit	08:30	יום שלישי 23/9 תפילת שחרית
<b>Shofar Blowing + Mussaf</b>	10:30	<b>תקיעת שופר ובהמשך תפילת מוסף</b>
Erev Rosh Hashanah II	18:00	יום שלישי 23/9 ערה"ש חג שני
Shacharit Rosh Hashanah II	08:30	יום רביעי 24/9 רה"ש - שחרית
<b>Shofar Blowing + Mussaf</b>	10:30	<b>תקיעת שופר ובהמשך תפילת מוסף</b>

**Note: It is important to remember that on Yom Kippur there is only a single shofar blast, at the conclusion of the fast.**



## **Reut's Editorial:**

It is difficult to wish a Happy Holiday after a week of “permitted for publication” announcements, and after families of the hostages desperately set up an encampment near the Prime Minister’s residence in Jerusalem.

It is difficult to wish a Happy Holiday when we see, in the media, convoys of Gazans fleeing Gaza, and the thought inevitably arises—where are the hostages who remain there?

May it be a pleasant holiday, may we know how to appreciate what we have, to wish for good, to yearn for good, and to do good.

Reut Shalev

Even on the eve of Rosh Hashanah 5786, we yearn, pray, and demonstrate for the return from Gaza of the hostages, the living and the fallen:

**Soldiers:** Matan Angrist, Mohammad Al-Atrash, Ran Guily, Oz Daniel, Assaf Hamami, Itai Chen, Nimrod Cohen, Omer Neutra, Tamir Nimrodi. Abducted in 2014: Hadar Goldin.

**Abducted from Be’eri:** Dror Or, Sontaya Akrasri, Sahar Baruch, Manny Godard, Suthisak Rinthalak, Yossi Sharabi.

**Abducted from Kfar Azta:** Gali Berman, Ziv Berman.

**Abducted from Nahal Oz:** Omri Miran, Joshua Loitu Mollel.

**Abducted from Nir Yitzhak:** Tal Haimi, Lior Roydiff.

**Abducted from Nir Oz:** Tamir Adar, Ronen Engel, Eitan Horn, Aryeh Zalmanovitz, Eliyahu Margalit, Ariel Kunio, David Kunio, Matan Zangauker, Amiram Cooper.

**Abducted from Alumim:** Bipin Joshi.

**Abducted from the Nova festival:** Alon Ohel, Yosef Haim Ohana, Avinatan Or, Guy Ilouz, Elkanah Buchbut, Uriel Baruch, Rom Breslavsky, Eviatar David, Guy Gilboa Dalal, Inbar Hyman, Maxim Harkin, Segev Kalfon, Eitan Mor, Bar Kuperstein.

**While travelling in the Western Negev:** Eitan Levy.

*(Thank you Reut for publishing the names. I intend to read the list every day until their release – Edi-tor)*



## **Community Management Agenda**

**Sunday, 28.9 at 17:30 in the Meeting Room**

1. Updates and Miscellaneous
2. Adjustments to the 2025 Community Budget following the Economic Council's decisions

## **Assembly + Open Discussion**

**Monday, 29.09, 20:30 in the Club**

**Agenda:**

1. Committee appointments
2. Candidacy – Yaara and Noam Grinshpon
3. Open discussion – Presentation of the learning process from kibbutzim, conducted by the team on behalf of the Management Committee

## The Next Alon (and Yizraelite)

Please note: The next bulletin will be published on Friday, 26.09.25 as usual.  
However the following bulletin will be published on the eve of Sukkot. **Monday 6.10.25**

Material for publication in the upcoming bulletin may be submitted until Wednesday, 24.09 at 10:00

### Thank you for your Donations



Dear Yizrael Community,

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your generosity, for your wonderful ability to give again and again, with a warm smile and an open heart.

With your donations, we collected and transferred to the support fund of Kibbutz Nir Oz

**3722 NIS!!!**

We are proud to be part of such a remarkable community.

May it be a good and blessed year, and may the hostages return home soon, bringing with them good and uplifting days.



The Yizrael Support Team




**Ceremony Marking  
Two Years since the  
October 7th Disaster**

At the ceremony commemorating two years since the tragic events of October 7th, we intend to include personal reading passages, written by our members and residents.

*Anyone who wishes to take part and write about "their October 7th"*

is invited to contact:  
**Nitzan Rivlin Feldman,  
Adi Goldstein Ilan, or Yifat Assaf**  
by Shabbat, 27.09.25.



## **Reminder from the Armed Emergency Squad (Kitat Conenut)**

A happy and peaceful holiday to all,

As on every holiday, and especially during the Tishrei holidays, we wish to remind everyone that if, God forbid, we find ourselves in a security incident – **Do not take part in it!** Immediately enter a protected area and report to the relevant authorities (Police / Security Coordinator).



The armed emergency squad is trained and identifiable by various means known to it, and anyone not part of it may mistakenly be identified otherwise. The main concern is harm to friendly forces due to mistaken identification.

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# Community Management Summary – 14.09.2025

**Participants:** Erez Peleg, Talia Arad, Yifat Segal, Yishai Levi, Kinneret Govrin, Maor Persai, Noga Harpaz, Naomi Amit, Shlomo Levi, Limor Griman

## 1. Economic Update

Maor Persai, CFO, presented the kibbutz's financial situation using the "*Assets and Liabilities*" model.

- Assets: physical property, income-generating property, cash, deposits, receivables, etc.
- Liabilities: debts to banks, suppliers, obligations to funds, and members' personal budgets.

The kibbutz's total assets far exceed its liabilities.

A current (annual) managerial balance sheet was also presented, showing assets and liabilities available within one year. This indicates a positive gap, serving as a "safety cushion."

A significant drop in income from business profits in 2025 requires use of this safety cushion to fund ongoing kibbutz life (community needs, completion of the Rugby neighbourhood, reserve fund deposits, etc.).

- The cushion allows us to complete 2025, but a shortfall may arise in 2026, requiring deep reflection on how to finance kibbutz life.
- Current model cannot fully fund kibbutz life; budgetary changes are needed.
- Further cuts are difficult after years of streamlining.
- All available resources should be pooled and budgeted by needs, not old categories.
- Questions were raised about the fairness of distributing member bonuses not from profits but from the cushion. Request made to review the profit-sharing formula with public support for 2025.
- Transparency and ongoing updates to members are essential.

**Conclusion:** Prepare a tighter 2026 budget plan, define must-do tasks, and present gaps and implications to the Executive Committee, Economic Council, and members.

## 2. Change of Purpose: Temporary Apartments in Parents' Housing

**Guest:** Nitzan Kamilian (Housing Committee Coordinator)

- In 2022, two housing units were built in Parents' Housing as temporary homes to speed up absorption.

- Currently: two families live there, one moving to permanent housing by year-end, freeing one unit.
- Today: 14 families/individuals await permanent housing, plus 5 more families not yet eligible.
- Fewer permanent housing units are available, while temporary housing has increased.
- Housing Committee recommends designating the two units for permanent use.
- This will not harm future absorption, as 2026 candidates will move into other vacated homes.
- Request: Housing Committee be authorised to decide case-by-case if a unit is temporary or permanent, for flexibility.

**Decision:** Community Management authorises Housing Committee to determine the status (temporary/permanent) of the two new units in Parents' Housing, separately for each.

### **3. Proposal: Candidate Vetting Team before Membership Votes**

**Guests:** Eviatar Assaf (Absorption Committee Chair), Stas Gavrilov, Irit Shemesh (Members Committee Reps)

- The “Members Committee” (Vaadat Chaverim) is responsible for supporting candidates before membership votes.
- With few candidates yearly, this was manageable. Now, with demographic growth, more support is needed.
- **Proposal:** create a dedicated team of 4 members, operating as an extension of the Members Committee, focused solely on candidate vetting. Members to be recommended by the Appointments Committee and approved by the General Assembly.

#### **Discussion:**

- Question whether this task should belong to Members Committee at all (historical decision, never fully justified).
- Counterpoint: their involvement builds ties with new families even after formal absorption.
- Goal: gather multiple perspectives on candidates before the vote.

**Decision:** Further discussion needed; role definitions for Members Committee must be clarified. Decision to be finalised by end of 2025, so that by summer 2026 membership votes, the new team format will be in place.



#### 4. Farewell & Holiday Toast

**Ilana Peleg** and **Stas Gavrilov** have completed three years of service on the Community Management team. They contributed with great dedication, responsibility, bringing valuable perspectives and constructive challenges.

Gratitude was expressed for their service.

A toast was raised for a good New Year for Israel and Kibbutz Yizrael.

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### Reminder Regarding Reporting of Income



As we approach the closing of the kibbutz's tax reports, we remind all members that they are required to submit a full report of all their income from work and allowances to the kibbutz. This obligation applies to all members and candidates, including members of retirement age.

Failure to report properly may expose both the kibbutz and the member to sanctions by the Tax Authority, including financial penalties.

Wishing you a Happy New Year. **Maor Persai**, Chief Financial Office

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### Economic council meeting summary - 15.09.25

**Chairperson:** Uri Gilad

**Secretary:** Eddie Solow

**Participants:** 26 council members

#### Agenda

##### 1. Mid-2025 summary – Maytronics



Dubi Ofer, Chair of the Board, opened with observations from his first few months in office:

- Maytronics faces strong competitors flooding markets with cheaper (less reliable but adequate) robots, causing a decline in sales.
- The company produces the strongest and most reliable brand in the industry.

- Distribution is broad and effective (via distributors and direct internet sales), but online marketing is under-leveraged and must grow.
- Maytronics is on the verge of launching a new product line, *Dolphin X*, highly anticipated in the pool market. This is expected to improve market position.
- The company carries heavy debt, requiring balance sheet improvement.

He also discussed the search for a new CEO following Sharon's resignation. A board search committee (including Idan Zelas and Arik Shor) was formed with Israel's leading executive search firm. The goal: appoint a CEO by end of November, with entry into the role a few months later. He thanked CEO **Sharon Goldenberg**, who committed to remain until his successor assumes office and to ease him into the job.

**Sharon Goldenberg** presented the half-year summary:

- His resignation stemmed from managerial responsibility and confidence in the company's path.
- Q2 results were "**disappointing**": below both budget and forecast, mainly due to execution challenges rather than macroeconomics alone.

#### Key figures:

- **Revenue:** ₪515m, a 15% drop (vs. ₪607m in Q2 2024). About ₪50m in orders were not delivered due to logistics, raw-material shortages, etc., with some lost.
- **Gross margin:** ~35%, down sharply, due to reduced production while selling off inventory.
- **Operating profit:** ₪31m, much lower than last year, though operating expenses fell.

#### Positive notes:

- Stronger than budgeted performance results in **Australia** (robots + chemicals).
- **Israel** market exceeded budget despite security situation.
- **Inventory reduced** by nearly ₪200m compared to Q2 2024 – faster than planned – enabling debt repayment and lower interest costs.
- Development underway on three major 2026 product launches: *Dolphin X*, *S-Line upgrade*, and a new skimmer.
- Organisational restructure reduced the number of Vice-Presidents from 9 to 5, enabling faster decision-making.

**Risks:** Both Sharon and Dubi noted concern that rising global anti-Israeli sentiment could harm sales, though direct impact is not yet significant.

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## 2. Half Yearly summary – Held companies

Idan Zelas, CEO of Yizrael Holdings, reviewed portfolio companies:

- **Teldor:** Slight improvement over last year but still making a loss - weak overseas sales (especially USA), heavy debt. Focus shifting to defense sector and niche products.
- **Kapro:** Results similar to last year, ~30% gross margin but below budget. Challenges: weaker sales in Russia/Ukraine and US-China tariffs. Financially stable, preparing new strategy under CEO Ariel Dolinko (Yizrael member).
- **Netzer Sensors:** Continued double-digit growth and high efficiency, very high gross margin (~60%), showing technological edge. Risks: competition from large firms and foreign government pressures, with no protective patents.
- **Ma'agan Eden Resort Village:** Better than forecast – strong Q1 (evacuees still present), weaker Q2 due to renovations after the evacuees returned home), but summer season was very good by in large.
- **Income-producing real estate:** “Sens Energy Control” leased the southern IDL building for 5 years. Annual forecast from real estate: revenue ₪13.9m, cash flow after financing expenses ₪10m.

## 3. Mid-2025 summary and forecast – Holdings

Idan presented the consolidated half-year report:

- **No dividend** from Maytronics in 2025, leaving a ₪15m gap vs. the financial plan.
- **Main revenue forecasts:**
  - Real estate ~₪14m (before depreciation).
  - Capital gains from investments: ~₪2m (Jan–Jul).
  - Dividends + management fees from holdings: ~₪4m.
- **Loans:** Kibbutz debt at ₪103m (down from ₪127m in Dec 2024). Annual repayment ~₪10m.
- **Net cash flow forecast for 2025:** negative ₪12.5m (operating, investing, and financing combined).

**Recommendation (Finance Committee + Executive Board):** reduce target for profit transfers from holdings to ₪21m (vs. ₪26.7m originally).

**Discussion points:**

- This is a prudent and responsible step, avoiding deeper financial strain.
- Question whether dividend potential from holdings was fully maximized.



- Criticism of past kibbutz investments that yield low returns compared to financial funds.
- Question whether asset sales were considered to meet transfer goals.
- Desire to improve profitability of held companies.
- Criticism expressed of kibbutz decision-making leading to current state.
- Request made for detailed reports on **energy sector**, solar systems, and gas station.
- If the final results are better than the forecast, a larger dividend will be paid.
- **Resolution:**  
The community management must amend the 2025 budget in light of revised forecasts. Profit transfers from holdings capped at **₪21m**, with **no budget overruns permitted**.

**Vote result:** 19 in favour, 2 against, 4 abstained.

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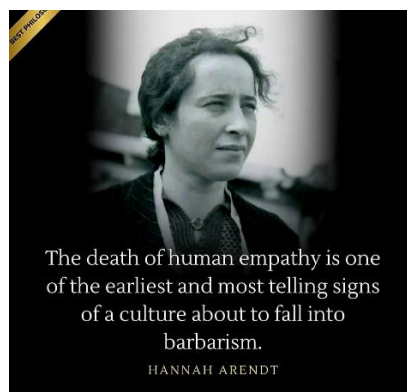
## Work During the Tishrei Holidays

- **Rosh Hashanah week (21–26.9):** 2 full workdays + one holiday eve of 4 working hours.
- **Yom Kippur week (28.9–3.10):** 3 full workdays + one holiday eve of 4 working hours.
- **Sukkot weeks (5–17.10):** 6 full workdays + two holiday eves of 4 working hours each.

A holiday eve counts as a half-day of 4 hours.

Wishing you a year of growth and prosperity, with interest and enjoyment at work!

Kinneret Govrin. HR.



**Food for thought**

## Food Branch Schedule for Rosh Hashanah



### Monday – Eve of the First Holiday

- Morning as usual
- A basic vegetable market will be held in the Dining Hall.
- Food distribution in catering format for those eating at home during the holiday will take place between **09:30–11:30**.  
Please prepare in advance with proper boxes and containers for transporting food home!  
Kindly do not remove Dining Hall dishes from the branch area.
- The community is invited to help set the tables for the holiday evenings at **11:00**.
- A light buffet lunch will be served outside the Dining Hall
- Holiday dinner for those eating in the Dining Hall – **18:45**

### Tuesday – Eve of the Second Holiday

- Brunch 09:00–12:00
- Second Holiday dinner self-service:
  - Distribution for those eating at home **17:00–18:15**
  - Holiday dinner for those eating in the Dining Hall **18:30–19:45**

### Wednesday – Holiday recess

- Brunch 09:00–12:00

## From the Mazkirut – (Technical Secretariat)

Starting from the beginning of October 2025, the Technical Secretariat's operating hours will be **09:00–14:00**.

### Services provided by the Secretariat:

- Photocopying, scanning and all other secretarial work will be completed within 48 hours – please do not send requests at the last minute. For large or private jobs, it is recommended to coordinate in advance.
- Updating phone numbers for opening gates and barriers in the *PAL GATE* system.
- Scheduling meeting rooms in the old Secretariat.

### A few notes:

- When the Secretariat is closed during operating hours (errands outside the office,

lunch breaks), you may send a message to one of us by email or WhatsApp.

- For scheduling meetings with office holders, please contact Hedva Sharabani at [hedva@yizrael.com](mailto:hedva@yizrael.com).
- Parcels delivered to the old Secretariat are your responsibility.

We invest much effort and attention in our work, and strive to provide accurate, efficient and courteous service.

We will always be glad to assist you in the best possible way!

**Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year!**

Irit Cohen, Hedva Sharabani

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## Transition Season Energy Update – Autumn Has Officially Begun!



### The transition season has arrived!

Although autumn officially begins on **22–23 September** with the first rains, the heat hasn't really subsided yet.

### TOU (Time of Use) Electricity Tariffs – Transition Season

Valid from **October** until winter rates in **December**

### Sunday–Thursday

- **Peak** – 17:00–22:00
- **Intermediate** – none
- **Off-peak** – all other hours (22:00 – 17:00)

**Friday evenings and holiday eves** – all hours off-peak

**Saturdays and holidays** – all hours off-peak

### Cost per h (Low Voltage, excl. VAT)

- **Winter** – Peak: ₪0.8807    Off-peak: ₪0.2942
- **Summer** – Peak: ₪1.3033    Off-peak: ₪0.3452
- **Transition season** – Peak: ₪0.3275    Off-peak: ₪0.2871

### Reminder!

**Solar water heaters** work on solar energy until the end of September. After that, gradually, electricity will be used to supplement the sun's work.

- If you feel the sun isn't heating the water enough – you may switch on the boiler manually for **30 minutes only**. Don't forget to turn it off, or you'll discover at the end of the month (with your electricity bill) that you forgot.

### Looking Ahead to Winter

- Now is the time to think about heating. – perhaps buy a radiator on sale before prices go up when the cold truly arrives.
- Check that all external doors and windows close tightly.

### Winter Clock 2025

- **Daylight Saving Time ends:** Sunday, **26 October 2025**, at 02:00 – turn clocks back one hour to 01:00, and enjoy an extra hour's sleep.
- That marks the end of **219 days of "summer clock."**
- **Winter time ends:** Friday, **27 March 2026**.

If you use a **Shabbat timer for your boiler**, remember to adjust both the clock and the switching hours to match winter time and the new "off-peak" schedule.

Wishing us all pleasant weather in this transition season, and warmth when winter arrives.

### Jeremy Perling, Energy Coordinator

A Happy New Year – may positive energies find a home in our country.

The alternatives are not encouraging – let it be a year of quiet, peace, and joy... without power cuts.

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## Proposals: From the Committee Appointments Committee

1. **Safety Committee:** Yaniv Lifshitz as coordinator of the Safety Committee. His candidacy will be presented at the upcoming kibbutz assembly, followed by a vote on Kehilanet.
2. **Dogs Committee:** Irit Cohen as coordinator of the Dogs Committee. Her candidacy will be presented at the upcoming kibbutz assembly, followed by a vote on Kehilanet.
3. **Sportiyulim Committee:** For another term the following members: Gazit Levy, Ella Cohen, Doron Kagan, Tzafnat Mor, Niv Edelstein. Their candidacies will be presented at the upcoming assembly.

4. **Housing Committee:** Aviva Beutler for another term. Her candidacy will be presented at the upcoming kibbutz assembly.
5. **Absorption Committee:** Yoni Brauman to join as a member of the Absorption Committee. His candidacy will be presented at the upcoming kibbutz assembly.
6. **Culture Committee:** Shimrit Tzafadia to join as a member of the Culture Committee. Her candidacy will be presented at the upcoming kibbutz assembly.
7. **Vehicles Committee:** Tamir Lavi to join as a member of the Vehicles Committee (he was previously an observer). His candidacy will be presented at the upcoming kibbutz assembly.
8. **Bereavement Committee:** Shachar Sassi and Hadar Lavi (previously an observer) to join as members of the Bereavement Committee. Their candidacies will be presented at the upcoming kibbutz assembly.

You are welcome to contact any of the members of the Committee Appointments Committee:

Kinneret Govrin, Albert Rosilio, Liran Penn, Navot Assaf, Dotan Savir, Sheli Edelstein, Hedva Sharabani.





## Patchi Turns Ninety: Between Manuscripts and the Poetry of Life

On Thursday, 18.9.25, about fifty guests gathered at the home of Yonatan Bassi on Kibbutz Ma'ale Gilboa, to celebrate the 90th birthday of Avraham (Patchi) Shapira. The initiative for the event was born from a note published in the kibbutz bulletin, which Yonatan received. He read it with emotion and declared: *"We are celebrating your birthday, Patchi, a party at my kibbutz."*

The chosen venue—Yonatan's house, overlooking the breathtaking landscapes of the valley beyond the Gilboa—proved to be an inspired choice. The view, the air, and the unique atmosphere gave the celebration both festive and profound dimensions.

As is the tradition, the gathering brought together close friends and men and women of letters, including Benny Ziffer, Professor Avi Sagi, literary figure Israel Carmel, the poet Rivka Miriam, along with Patchi's family and kibbutz friends. The celebration was accompanied by a rich table, warm greetings, and a deep sense of community.



Throughout the evening, participants rose one after another to praise the birthday celebrant, who was visibly moved. Among the tributes were exceptional moments when Patchi himself shared personal experiences from his many years in the company of the works of the great intellectuals and writers of the 19th and 20th centuries—including Franz Kafka and Gershom Scholem.

He told of the moving occasions when he had the privilege to touch and spend time with the manuscripts of these giants, and even to serve humbly as one entrusted with their safekeeping. The entire event was a living testament to Patchi's figure: a man of literature and culture with wide horizons, a role model both in our kibbutz and in

Israeli cultural life.

The ninetieth birthday celebration was not only a personal tribute, but also a celebration of a life's work and of Jewish-Israeli culture at its finest.

**Patchi, may you enjoy many more years of health, grace, and light.**



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## **Yizrael Rugby Club – “Every morning we begin anew “**



### **BEGINNERS AGE GROUP!**

The 2025–2026 rugby season opened in early September across the country, and also here on the Kibbutz.

We were delighted to see that so many children choose to join the Rugby Club – from kindergarten age up to 17 – a record number of about 120 children are now playing at the club.

We were especially happy to welcome many young children from Yizrael who joined the “Littlies” group – so many, in fact, that we had to split the group into two: one for kindergarten and 1st grade, and another for the older children in grades 2–4.

A special mention goes to Amit and Yam Shorer, who integrated wonderfully into the kibbutz and the club.

On Saturday we hosted our first tournament of the season – a senior sevens tournament for the northern clubs. It was a great opportunity for our senior team to warm up. Under the strong midday sun, we defeated two teams from Maghar (Marar) and a tough team from Menashe Mammoths... we won the tournament!

## Upcoming Events:

- **25 October** – We host our first senior league game of the season against Marar
- **1 November** – We host Maccabi Tel Aviv for the season's main game
- **8 November** – We host a national youth and children's tournament

## Idan Zelas



**ROSH HASHANAH  
5786**

**Monday, 22.9 – Eve of the First Holiday**  
18:45 - Holiday gathering in Dining Hall  
After dinner - Year summary and Kahoot quiz in the Club.

**Tuesday, 23.9 – Eve of Second Holiday**  
21:00 - Tribute performance for Corinne Allal in the Club, with our local singers and musicians  
(Invited: from 7th grade and up.)

**Wednesday, 24.9**  
10:00 - Mission game around the kibutz, starting from the lobby.

*May the old year end with its curses,  
and may the new year begin with its blessings.*

**SHANA TOVA TO ALL OF BEIT YIZRAEL!**

Holiday Team: Adva Lifshitz, Alma Brauman, Dekel Serno, Tali Brauman, Idit la-vei, Reut Mor, Shimrit Meir



## Or B'Givah

### Schedule

#### Sunday 21.09.25

- 09:00 – Gathering with coffee, cake, conversation, and board games
- 09:30 – Documentary lectures: *Mysteries of the World*

#### Monday 22.09.25 – Wednesday 24.09.25

- Erev Rosh Hashanah & Rosh Hashanah

#### Thursday 25.09.25

- 09:00 – Gathering with coffee, cake, conversation, and board games
- 10:00 – Film with Galia Shamaï
- 10:00 – Open ceramics studio with Ziv Ben Bassat

#### Sunday 28.09.25

- 09:00 – Or B'Givah open
- 16:00–18:00 – Gathering with coffee, cake, conversation, and board games

#### Monday 29.09.25

- 08:00 – Pedicure with Limor Moalem (*appointment required*)
- 09:00 – Sweet & Cold with Monika
- 10:00 – Thinking games & trivia with Galia Shamaï

#### Tuesday 30.09.25

- 09:00 – Gathering with coffee, cake, conversation, and board games
- 10:00 – Preparing for Yom Kippur

#### Wednesday–Thursday 01–02.10.25

- Erev Yom Kippur & Yom Kippur

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## ENGLISH IS FUN with Rahel

### COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS RECEIVED IN THE GORHAM HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY OVER THE YEARS:

- Ya got any good books here?
- Have you got that article I wanted to read? I don't remember what it was, or what magazine it was in.
- Have you got any paper clips?
- Do you have any books about people who get wiped out or mangled?
- Do you have the book of Genesis? You know, it tells about the woman with the smallest waist; things like that.
- I can't read this book. The words are too tiny.
- Who was that Greek guy? The only place you could kill him was in the heel.
- Do you know anything about the United States?
- Do you have any alcohol? My ears are pierced and they're killing me.
- I need to find the Loch Ness Monster. What do you have?
- Where are your hysterical novels?
- I came to look up the word *kleptomaniac*, but someone has stolen all the dictionaries.
- Can you find me a recipe for Jewish unleavened bread?
- Are we supposed to get new library cards for this month, or is it still last month?
- Do you have any pornographic books?
- I need an ancient current event.



- What do you call a person who eats only vegetables? I think it starts with a “v”.
- You got anything I can report on?
- I just read *Midnight Summer Dream*. Do you have another play by Shakespeare?
- Who were the Seven Dwarfs?
- Where can I find instructions about brewing my own beer?
- Do you have anything to read in this place?
- Did I bring that book back?
- What was a chastity belt used for?
- Are ladies of the night the same as ladies of the evening?
- I’ve got a report due next period. What can I do it on?
- I need an American classic. Not too long, but at least 175 pages.
- Do you have a picture of Lenin under glass?
- I need a book by Tom Sawyer.
- What’s the easiest animal to report on? .....more next week

## Here is the swimming pool schedule for the coming week (21–27.09.25):

**Sunday 21.9** – 09:00 to 12:00

**Monday 22.9** – Closed

**Tuesday 23.9 (First Day of the Holiday)** – 10:00 to 17:00

**Wednesday 24.9 (Second Day of the Holiday)** – 10:00 to 17:00

**Thursday 25.9** – Closed

**Friday 26.9** – Closed

**Saturday 27.9** – 11:00 to 16:00

### Credits:

**Editor of Hebrew Newsletter: Reut Shaliv**

Translator and editor: Eddie Solow (Edi-tor)

Proofreaders: Chazz Broadhurst and Biff Markham-Oren

Office staff: Irit Cohen, Danit Duvdevani Kirshberg and Hedva Shaharabani

**Disclaimer 1:** 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.

Please take into account that we use AI when translating. We proofread and correct the texts but errors may be overlooked. Be warned!

**Disclaimer 2: “English is Fun”:** At the request of the author, this column is not proofread or edited in any way. Content and format are at the discretion of the author.

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