



The Yizraelite – No 2175 Date: 13.9.24

Kibbutz Yizrael

Soft Copy

Notice - General Asefa + Economic Council

On Monday, September 19, 2024

At 20:00

Asefa Agenda: Audit Report on the Organisational Structure of Yizrael Holdings (Invited: Uri Greenberg, Internal Auditor)

Economic Council Agenda: Approval of Financial Reports 2023 – Kibbutz, Holdings, Agriculture

Asefa/Council Committee: Eddie Solow; Shlomo Cohen; Uri Gilad; Limor Griman



Thank You Eyal Tirosh

From Galia Shemi: Dear Eyal Tirosh. We, a large group of veterans, want to thank you for a wonderful summer of water aerobics! The pool has become a source of energy and vitality for us, filled with enjoyable, diverse, and professional challenges that made us work hard with a smile and refresh ourselves among the waves. Thanks to you, we discovered new abilities in our bodies; thanks to you, we feel strengthened and refreshed, all in a pleasant atmosphere filled with humour and creativity.

With great appreciation,

The group of exercisers. See you next summer 😊

Message from: Galia Shemi

From Ilana Peleg: During the summer break, we, the veterans, enjoyed water aerobics with Eyal Tirosh. This is not the first year that this blessed activity has taken place. Eyal conducts the class with great professionalism, a wealth of exercises, trust in our acrobatic abilities, all with great charm.

A big thank you to you, Eyal, and we are already looking forward to next summer...

Wishing you a year full of interest and meaning and may we all know peaceful days.

Thank you, we love you!

Submitted by: Ilana Peleg, on behalf of the exercisers

Community Management Meeting Report

8 September, 2024

Participants: Erez Peleg, Ilana ,Peleg Talia Arad, Yifat Segal, Shlomo Levi, Maor Persai-Barniv, Tamir Blass, Stas Gavrilov, Kinneret Govrin, Limor Griman.

1. Information and Miscellaneous:

- Excellence Fund Management: Limor updated that Rotem Kamilian will join the Excellence Fund Management as a representative of the Young Generation Committee.

- The team that examined the issue of the Ministry of Defense pension in the case of a bereaved widow seeking to settle on the kibbutz has completed its work and submitted a recommendation. The team chose to focus, at this stage, on the matter of a bereaved widow requesting to settle in the kibbutz and not to expand to the issue of pensions in general. The recommendation states:

- A bereaved widow arriving for settlement will receive during the settlement period all allowances and grants due to her + an individual budget from the kibbutz.

- After acceptance into membership, the allowance will be fully transferred to the kibbutz, and the widow will receive a budget akin to that of a single parent.

- Grants received from time to time will remain with the widow.

- For educational and treatment grants, and in any case where state funding can be obtained, the priority is first to take advantage of what the state provides.

- The community management accepts the policy proposed by the team. The decision will be forwarded to the absorption committee.

2. Kabbalat Shabbat at Friday Eve Meals:

(Invited: Adi Laviv - Food Sector, Tal Wolfson Darom - Culture Coordinator, David Mittelberg - Survey Editor, Guests: Shlomo Cohen, Idit Halevi, Uri Gilad)

- In recent years, there have been changes in the unique custom of Kibbutz Yizrael to hold a Kabbalat Shabbat in the dining room with table service. The changes resulted from external events (COVID-19, war, evacuee influx) and now the time has come to make formal decisions on the matter.

- In June 2024, a survey was conducted to examine public opinions.

- Survey Findings:

- 74% of kibbutz members responded. Most age groups are represented in the survey similarly to their proportion in the population. There is an underrepresentation of members over 70.

- 49% of respondents frequently attend Friday meals, while 37% rarely attend. Among those who frequently attend, there is a similar distribution between the two serving alternatives: 47% prefer table service, while 40% prefer self-service, and 13% have no preference.

- Regarding the desired frequency of self-service, it is noted that the public coming to the dining room on Fridays is similarly divided between two options - 41% want self-service often (3-4 times a month) and 41% want self-service rarely (0-1 times a month).

- It was emphasised that the discussion is about the nature of the meal and not whether to hold it.

- **Food Sector's Response:** The food sector prefers self-service as it is easier operationally, alleviates the work of volunteers, and is more economical (more food can be returned to the fridge instead of being wasted). This does not affect the Kabbalat Shabbat.

- **Key points raised in the discussion:**

- The survey is strong due to the high number of responses and accurately reflects a divided public. There is no clear consensus, meaning the food sector must regularly cater to different needs and desires.

- There is great value in the communal Shabbat reception in the dining room, which attracts a wider and more diverse audience. Our culture aims not only for entertainment but also for communal unity. The Shabbat reception is part of what binds people together and provides critical added value to communal life in Yizrael.

- Kabbalat Shabbat in the moadon have failed to be meaningful; many miss them, not necessarily because they don't care about attending. We have tried and still feel it doesn't work.

- Operational solutions can be found for serving food so as not to disrupt the festive Kabbalat Shabbat in the dining room. We can learn from other kibbutzim like ours.

- Kabbalat Shabbat are part of the Yizrael DNA.

- Table service is associated with food waste. We need to see how to maintain a festive meal alongside Kabbalat Shabbat while also preventing food waste.

There is a segment of the community that stopped coming to the dining hall on Fridays specifically because of the cessation of the Kabbalat Shabbat and because there is no organised seating plan, making it uncertain whether one will have a place or not.

The serving can be self-service, but the seating should be arranged in advance.

On the other hand, it is evident that on many Fridays with self-service, the dining hall is full. This means there is a segment of the community for whom this method of serving works well.

There are older members who do not have family and no one to sit with so for them, pre-arranged seating provides a solution.

We should consider a solution where one week is organised this way and the next week differently, alongside measures to prevent waste.

The unique spirit and character of Yizrael should be weighed against practical changes. It is a shame that practicality should dictate changing tradition. If we were religious, this would not happen, certainly not so quickly. I request that we uphold the tradition.

DECISION: an ad hoc committee will be formed to prepare a proposal for holding the Kabbalat Shabbat in the dining hall, addressing the issues that arose i.e. different preferences, preventing food waste, crowding, seating arrangements, and rostered duties.

The committee will submit its proposal to the Community Management meeting at the end of October.

The committee members are: Erez Peleg, Limor Griman, Stas Gavrilov, Yifat Segal, Adi Laviv, Tal Darom.

During the committee's work, table service will continue once a month (in September), and in October, a combined format of table service during the High Holy Days and self-service on Fridays will be implemented.

Community Management Meeting Agenda

- Sunday, 15.9.24 at 17:30

1. Discussion of the conclusions of the team examining the community's income and deriving operative policies
2. Changing the water budgeting model in the community
3. Preparation of a survey on the security protection of members' houses in the older neighbourhoods

Submitted by: Limor Greiman

Management Committee Report – 4 September , 2024

Present: Jeremy Perling, Sigal Hadar, Ron Cohen, Elad Ilan, Limor Griman, Natali Zinenko.

Agenda:

1. Farewell and thanks to the members of the Management Committee who completed their terms: Avner Alterlevi as the representative of the Reserve Fund, Yifat Assaf as the secretary of the kibbutz, Adi Goldstein Ilan as a public representative.

2. Proposal for the composition of the Economic Council:

Due to requests from several members to conclude their terms on the Economic Council, Kinneret Govrin, HR manager, and Uri Gilad, chair of the Economic Council, conducted a review of its composition and identified several issues. Consequently, they prepared a proposal for the precision and regulation of the Economic Council's composition. The Economic Council is a substitute for the asefa; thus, the appointment of its members is the authority and responsibility of the Management Committee.

During the discussion, it was emphasised that it is crucial for all members of the Economic Council, including those representing any elected body, to be chosen by the public and to have received its trust in a ballot at the asefa. Therefore, it was suggested to remove members of the Finance Committee from the council's composition, as they are appointed and not elected publicly.

According to this concept, if there is difficulty in filling the required quota from any public body, the number of public representatives in the council will increase, to bring the total up to 32 members.

The proposal was approved by the members of the Management Committee and will be discussed in the asefa.

3. Approval of profit distribution to members and the Reserve Fund for the 2023 financial year. The suggestion was approved

4. Presentation of financial reports for the year 2023:

Maor presented the financial reports of the kibbutz “solo” (only of the kibbutz, unlike the "consolidated" report which includes the corporations).

Key points:

- Increase in income from work, increase in operating expenses and member expenses.

- Total operational loss of X million NIS (the number is not published in this report; **members are invited on Monday to the Economic Council to hear the full report**).
- Growth in the value of held corporations and net investments.
- Increase in general administrative expenses: transaction costs of a holding corporation were recorded in the kibbutz for tax reasons.
- Decrease in cash: it can be seen that the profits of the corporations financed the deficit in the current budget plus investments.
- Cash went towards the Reserve Fund and profit distribution.

Members of the Management Committee approved the reports and recommend that the Economic Council approve them.

5. Request to open a new bank account dedicated to the partnership of the Yizrael Dairy with the Ma'oz Haim Dairy:

The partnership will act to open a bank account at Discount Bank and/or through the Emek Yizrael Purchasing Organisation. The partners will sign an owner's guarantee for the purpose of obtaining short-term credit from a financial corporation to which the partnership will apply for short-term credit.

Jeremy Perling and Maor Persai-Barniv will be appointed as authorised signatories in the partnership for opening the bank account and in the purchasing organisation.

Members of the Management Committee approved the opening of the bank account and the signing of the guarantees.

Follow-up on the work plan of the Management Committee over the two years since its establishment: Jeremy presented to the committee members the status of each issue they dealt with or defined as important to discuss:

Tasks of the Management Committee for the years 2022-2023:

- Definition of roles and goals of the Management Committee - **completed**
- Definitions and establishment of a renewed Economic Council - **completed**
- Examination of the kibbutz regulations (Takanon HaKibbutz)- passed in the ballot and submitted for approval to the Registrar of Cooperatives (HaRasham)
- Establishment of Life Fund B - discussion on the matter postponed by the kibbutz's attorney until the completion of related legal proceedings

- Association alternative - the topic was brought to the asefa. It was decided to drop the suggestion.
- Development of a community/social strategic plan - in progress
- Definition of issues to be defined as “way of life issues”: These were included in the regulations
- Response of the kibbutz to ongoing violations of the kibbutz regulations and its decisions – ongoing (And may G-d have mercy on us – Ed)

Tasks (Goals?) of the Management Committee for 2024:

- Profit distribution key for 2025 - differentiation, guidance, approval of stages, ready to be presented to the public and discussed in the asefa.
- Appeal procedure - passed in the ballot vote
- Pension target - under discussion
- Life Fund B - discussion on the matter postponed by the kibbutz's attorney until the completion of related legal proceedings
- Savings plan for every child - tasked to the community management to form a team for management and operation
- building a strategic plan for the community – in progress

Joint demographic strategic process with the community management:

As part of the strategic process decided by the Management Committee, we will begin a joint initiative with the community management on the demographic-strategic topic.

A document summarising the team's work to increase community revenues was presented to the Economic Council, with the main proposed channel for increasing revenues being **the absorption of 70 new members in the next five years.**

This is a very ambitious move but essential for the kibbutz if it wishes to thrive. To achieve this, we need to prepare in all areas and levels of our community life - community services, education, culture, duties, selection and absorption processes, foster families, and more.

To kick off the process, a joint meeting of the Community Management and the Management Committee will be held (Don't forget the absorption committee – Ed!).

Recorded by: Limor Griman and Jeremy Perling.

Asefa Report - 9.9.24

Chairman: Shlomo Cohen

Secretary: Eddie Solow

Present: 49 members in the moadon, via Zoom, and on Channel 900 at the start of the asefa.

1: Membership Application – Niv and Sheli Edelstein

Stas Gavrilov, Chair of the Members Committee, presented the topic and explained the established process. Prior to the vote, the Members Committee receives the file from the Absorption Committee, conducts a thorough independent review, meets with colleagues, members, and employers, solicits public feedback, and ultimately, together with the Absorption Committee, presents the candidates to the asefa. This time, the process was delayed due to the committee's replacement and other circumstances. Stas apologised for the delay.

Irit Shemesh read the report (published "for Kibbutz members only" on Kehilanet). The Membership and Absorption Committees recommend accepting the Edelstein family for membership.

Uri Gilad thanked the Dolinko family for their warm and dedicated adoption of the family, as well as Joe Feldman and Leora Kamilian who supported the family on behalf of the Absorption Committee. Uri praised the community for actively participating in the absorption of new families.

2: Recommendation from the Search Committee for Jeremy Perling as Chair of the Management Committee for a Second Term – Voting to be held at the polls.

Kinneret Govrin explained the process followed by the Search Committee and read a detailed report highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of the candidate as expressed in the many meetings held by the committee. The Search Committee recommends Jeremy for an additional 4-year term as Chair of the Management Committee.

Jeremy's Remarks: "It is a great honour for me to stand before you as a candidate for a second term as Chair of the Management Committee of Yizrael. As I sat in the asefa, many thoughts crossed my mind (I thought about the time I spent) of my early years in the Basinim and at Gavrush's house, when I arrived at Yizrael as a volunteer.

My personal goal as Chair is for most Yizrael members to be happy. I also understand that there will be a few who will be indifferent or less happy about our decisions but

that is democracy. And when we talk about democracy, the measure of a good democracy is the extent to which it considers minorities, their needs, and special desires.

My goal is to lead Yizrael to where it chooses to go democratically while upholding laws and regulations."

3: Presentation of Candidates for Public Representative on the Management Committee – Voting to be held at the polls.

One Management Committee member needs to be replaced. Kinneret explained the process. Any member can nominate themselves or propose another member with their consent. The member receiving the most votes is elected (regardless of whether they received 51% of the votes, as per the regulations of cooperative societies). The Chair explained that members will be asked to mark one name on the ballot.

The following members are running for the position: Matan Elul, Vicky Hollander, Doron Kagan, Adi Laviv, Inbal Pezaro, Yitzhak Peleg, Barry Feldman, Nitzan Feldman, Moran Cooper, Zehava Rosilio, Ofra Shapira.

4: Recommendation from the Human Resources Management for Vicky Hollander as Director of the Small Businesses Committee.

Erez Peleg presented: "After a period of about two months in which efforts were made to recruit a coordinator for the area of initiatives and small businesses in the community, we decided to propose Vicky Hollander.

We found that Vicky's personality and experience will serve her in the challenge of promoting the field of initiatives and small businesses, being system-oriented, empathetic, and at the same time goal-driven, precise, and striving for excellence.

Vicky's work in quality control in large projects provides a solid foundation for her activity in the field of initiatives.

Vicky does not have vast experience with accounting and finance but does not lack understanding in budget management. To fulfill her role in this area, she can rely on committee members and relevant officials. The selection process included an interview with the HR Manager and the Community Manager, as well as presenting the candidacy to the HR Management committee. During the search period, we met with four candidates, all good and talented people. In the end, we recommend Vicky Hollander for the position of Coordinator of Initiatives and Small Businesses."

Vicky's Remarks: "First, I thank the HR Committee for the support and trust they have given me.

Additionally, I want to thank Shimon Zelas and other committee members for their dedicated and professional work during their term. I look forward to continuing to build on the strong foundations they have laid and to further promote and strengthen the small businesses and initiatives of the kibbutz for continued growth and prosperity

****Section 5: The HR Committee's Recommendation for Naomi Amit as a Member of the Search Team - Kinneret reported that Ofra Shelef will be replaced on the search team and the HR Committee strongly recommends Naomi Amit. A vote was held at the meeting via Kehilanet.**

(Congratulations to Naomi Amit on her appointment as a member of the search team!)

6: Proposals from the Committee for Appointments: Tzach Sassi presented in place of Nir Segal, who was unable to attend:

A. The Appointments Committee proposes Karen Brustein-Ayalon and Eviatar Assaf as joint Icoordinators of the Absorption Committee - after consulting with the Coordinator for Community Development (Ishai Levi) and the current coordinator (Uri Gilad) and understanding the needs. We recommend two coordinators. There is a need for two coordinators as part of the absorption goal of Yizrael 2030. The demographic issue will lead to an economic problem, as presented by the Community Income Team at the previous meeting. The expected absorption will be significantly larger than anything we have known in the recent past, potentially reaching 10-12 families per year in certain years. The vote was held on Kehilanet. Congratulations to Karen Brustein-Ayalon and Eviatar Assaf on their appointments as joint coordinators of the Absorption Committee.

B. The Appointments Committee proposes Mor Broadhurst for the Audit Committee.

C. The Appointments Committee proposes Anat Friedman for the Vehicle Committee.

The asefa wishes every success to the four newly elected committee members!

Good News – Everyone was Accepted at the Ballot

Warm congratulations to Niv and Shelley Edelstein on their acceptance into membership.

Congratulations to Jeremy Perling on being elected chairman of the Community Management for a second term.

Congratulations to Vicky Hollander on being selected as Entrepreneurship Manager.

Congratulations to Doron Kagan on being elected as a public representative in the Community Management.

H.R. Update for Members Regarding the Mazkirut

We are pleased to announce that Danit Kirschberg has joined the mazkirut this week. You are welcome to contact Danit regarding secretarial matters such as gates, printing, document lamination, etc. (reception@yizrael.com).

Hedva Shaharabani will continue to manage the diaries of the role holders (hedva@yizrael.com) and will serve as the contact for scheduling meetings.

Zohar is leaving the mazkirut and will continue to handle rostered duty assignments. For any requests or questions, please reach out to her at the duty email **toranut@yizrael.com**

A big thank you to Zohar for her help over the past year.

Good luck to Danit and Zohar!

Call for Public Representatives on the Agriculture Board of Directors

With the end of the terms of Phil Adler, Momi Cohen, and Ella Cohen on the Agriculture Board, we thank them for their important contributions and partnership, and we are issuing a call for three public representatives.

The composition of the Agriculture Board consists of the Chair of Agriculture, a Holdings Manager, 3 public representatives, and 2 outside directors. Additionally, the financial manager of the kibbutz, the head of the field crops department, and the head of the livestock department participate as observers.

Meetings take place during daytime hours, and it is required to read materials and study topics prior to the meeting.

Members are invited to submit their candidacy for the position by 26 September 2024.

****Search for Agriculture Chairperson****

As Jeremy Perling's 3-year term as Chair of Agriculture comes to an end, the search team is beginning the process of considering another term for Jeremy. This process will include meetings with role partners and members. The team will collect feedback and materials and process them into a recommendation by the end of October. The team's recommendation and selection will take place in the Holdings Board.

We invite interested members to discuss the matter with us by reaching out to one of the search team members: Hila Alterlevi, Amir Darom, Arnon Matalon, Shimon Zelas, and Kinneret Govrin.

****Updates from the Welfare and Health Cluster****



****Mobility Scooters** Kalnoit**



The mobility scooter is an assistive device for individuals who have difficulty with mobility. There are currently about 60 mobility scooters in Yizrael, belonging to the health system. The increase in these devices within the kibbutz is natural, given the aging population.

The hot summer makes it difficult for older individuals, as well as members dealing with illness, pregnancy complications, and more, to walk. Along with the increase in the number of scooters, accidents are also on the rise. Some roads in the kibbutz are in poor condition, and it's important to pay attention and report hazards that pose a risk of tipping over. This can help prevent the next accident, God forbid.

Another factor in tipping over is riding high on the sidewalks (when one wheel is lifted in the air). In any case, **it is always advisable to take the longer safer route to your destination and not risk tipping over.**

We are aware of the number of scooters parked outside the dining room during peak hours. There is also a risk of collision there; plans and budgets have already been

approved for designated parking spaces, and implementation will begin soon. (Reverse Park!!!! - Ed)

New mobility scooters are purchased once a year by the garage, with 3-4 units acquired annually. Team representative Aviva Beutler accompanies the garage in selecting suitable models after evaluating several suppliers.

Winter covers are purchased collectively once a year by the garage.

****And a few numbers: ****

- Annual cost for the ongoing maintenance of the scooter fleet: approximately 150,000₪ .

- Annual cost for purchasing mobility scooters: 60,000-80,000₪ , depending on the available budget.

- Annual cost for purchasing covers: 20,000₪ .

We receive requests from members to exchange an existing scooter for a new one; while the request is understandable, it is not feasible. "Upgrading" a scooter will only be done according to the garage's criteria; the team does not have a say in who gets a new one. A member has the right to purchase a new scooter at their own expense, but we cannot provide reimbursements for such purchases. We can fund ongoing maintenance for those who are eligible for a scooter and choose to buy a new one privately.

For any concerns regarding the condition of the scooter, please contact the garage without hesitation. It is better to reach out, and the issue will be checked repeatedly until you feel confident. The condition of the scooters is very important, and they are checked regularly (every two months!). Some members ignore the garage's requests to bring in the vehicle for maintenance, putting themselves at risk (and shortening the life of the scooter – Ed).

The scooter team is at your service, and you can reach out to: Aviva Beitler, Inbal Adler, Liran Penn, Moshe Mizrahi, Talia Arad.

Editor's note: The Scooter Procedure is available on Kehilanet. There, members rights and obligations regarding scooters are clearly set out – Ed)



****Radiation Measurements****



On August 22, 2024, a certified radiation meter was brought, to assess the potential radiation risk from the cellular antenna located near the garage.

Testing Points:

1. Clinic / Gardens / Synagogue
2. Parents' housing / New housing duplex (Laviv / Shechter)
3. Garage

Points further away are no longer within the exposure radius, according to the consultant.

Summary of the Inspection and Report:

"According to the measurement data and tests conducted in Kibbutz Yizrael at the locations examined, it complies with the recommendations of the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and the values measured are completely normal."

****Summary and Conclusions****

In measurements of non-ionizing radiation from the RF radio and cellular network (electromagnetic radiation), no deviations were found from the exposure threshold recommended by the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The radiation measurements were entirely normal.

The experts were accompanied by Yitzhak Peleg, thanks to Yitzhak!

Anyone interested in the full report is welcome to contact me (Talía) or find it in the Health Cluster section in Kehilanet. *(Boring but if you need to find it, I can help you – Ed)*

Reported by: Talia Arad



I can't work out if these are "groping hands" or "helping hands" - Ed

Message from the “Excellence Fund” Management

With the beginning of the academic year 5785, we invite members and children to submit applications to the Excellence Fund.

Applications can be submitted through the Kehilanet > Forms.

Those interested can view the Excellence Fund procedures in the Community Net > Files > Regulations and Procedures (towards the end).

The fund management will convene at the beginning of October to discuss the applications.

We welcome Rotem Kamilian, who joins the Excellence Fund management as a representative of the Young Generation Committee, replacing Shlomo Kamilian.

Thank you to Shlomo for the years he served on the fund management and for contributing his experience and insights. We have learned a lot from you.

Submitted by: Limor Griman

****Beutler’s Guava ****

This is a true story, with a beginning, middle, and end. Absolute truth.

The beginning: A petting zoo on Yizrael, 1960. Benny Touz (of blessed memory) decides to plant an orchard near the petting zoo, close to the pool with loquats, strawberries, oranges, clementines, **and a guava tree**. Every year, we would pilgrimage to pick fruit. I especially loved the guava, a huge tree with pink fruit. So much fruit! Sometimes we would sneak in, not always with Benny's permission, and so it went on for years, year after year.

Years passed, and reality changed. They began building new housing where the petting zoo and the guava tree were located. What would happen to the tree? After much thought, we decided that the tree would move to a new location beside my house. A giant excavator arrived, a hole was dug, and the tree was moved. It underwent a difficult adjustment period, almost like a new member. The leaves wilted, and we thought it was all over for the tree. But no. The flowers returned, and of course, the wonderful fruit. Every year, beautiful red fruit.

Another 20 years passed, and the new home renovation didn't suit the tree, and it needed to be moved again. Once more the excavator came, a big hole was dug, and, and the tree was moved. The adjustment was tough; it received a lot of water, and it

survived that too. Then came COVID, and I was in isolation due to illness, and Aviva brought me 4 guavas from our tree. What joy!

This year, the tree is full of fruit, and we invite anyone who loves red guava to come and pick, no need to ask, just come.

This is a true story that has both a middle and an end.

Submitted by: David Beutler.

(I hope this article does not hasten the demise of David's guava. May your guava have a long and fruitful life, David - Ed)



Philo-sophia

The Dishwasher



It was with great sadness that I heard that the new dishwasher was ready for use by the general public. I can't tell you how much I enjoyed washing my dishes outside for all the world to see. It was as close to a religious experience as I will ever get. I felt like a missionary explaining to the uneducated the wonders of plastic (yes, I said plastic!) dishes that can be washed over and over in copious amounts of water, using environmentally unfriendly detergent. Never mind the facts - I glowed with the pride that only a religious zealot can experience.

Single use plates are the work of the devil – you don't have to believe me – look it up on YouTube the Amazon is disappearing at a rate of forty thousand dunams a day which is only marginally faster than the rate of schnitzels that disappear out of the dining room in plastic containers.

The first thing I noticed was that the new machine rotates in the wrong direction – all that money and all we get is something that spins anticlockwise. It will be a boon for anyone who is left-handed but the rest of us are going to struggle – what were they thinking.

A quick tip for first timers – wear your sunglasses when you go to drop off your dishes – the rugby field is obviously missing some of its spotlights – I must go and check to see just how many. Gone is the dim romantic lighting with the mist wafting through the room. Hospital operating theatres would be happy to have the wattage we have concentrated on that shiny new stainless steel.

By the way it's cold in there so either make it a quick in and out visit or wear your thermals. Personally, I will miss the feeling of being in a Turkish bath but you can't please everyone.

I applaud the attempt to exercise the mental capacity of us Alzheimer's bound old people. Green baskets for glasses, yellow for trays, blue for bowls – or was it blue for trays, blue for glasses and yellow for bowls? The cutlery I think goes into a frame that comes along every now and then or you can just toss it into a tray of your choosing. What I wonder will the colour blind amongst us do? My guess is they will do what the rest of us are doing and do whatever they like – after all we are Israelis and kibbutz members who know what is best.

Having successfully (or not) divested myself of my dirty dishes, cutlery and tray I turned my mental powers to the chore of washing and drying my hands. So many choices! Long taps, short taps and middle size taps. The first tap didn't work all that came out was air – it had obviously been disconnected wrongly or there was an air lock which would sort itself out eventually (maybe).

The second tap spat out something undesirable that had obviously been left over when the pipe has been lubricated for connection. I crossed my fingers and tried the third tap – hallelujah water came out, but I couldn't find the soap dispenser anywhere. I gave my hands a good rinse and turned my attention to the paper towel dispenser which didn't exist (sad sigh).

I wiped my hands on my pants and wandered out of there but not before wondering who had chosen the color plan.

What really upset me upset was watching the trays coming out of the machine. Everything was coming out sparkling clean not what we'd been used to at all – and the machine is so quiet... I will try to adapt but it won't be easy.



Jules Feldman - Fighting Windmills

I am writing about an unpleasant experience I had this week. I wrote an angry letter to the parking lot operator at the Afula hospital. I assume that others have had this experience as well, so I am sharing my letter and the responses I received with the readers of the newsletter:

Dear Sirs

Today, September 8, at 9:27 AM, I entered the parking lot at Emek Hospital and took your parking ticket. For 20 minutes, I searched for parking. With no other option, I had to park in a red zone to make it to my cardiology appointment on time, and I received a fine of 250 NIS. When I took your ticket, I received a commitment from you to provide service – you did not provide the service! I paid a fine, and in the end, I also paid 25 NIS for a service I did not receive .

On your website, it says: Quality, reliability, and service for over 30 years. It would be appropriate to have a sign at the entrance indicating that there are no available spots, not just at the entrance but also online. I expect a refund of the payment and compensation for the distress caused.

Thank you ,

Jules Feldman

To my surprise, the next day I received a response from Nissim Buzaglo, the parking manager:

Dear Sir

In the Emek parking lot, there is indeed a sign at the entrance indicating the number of available/occupied parking spaces. Attached is a photo of the sign located at the parking entrance. We do not enforce parking in the lot... but the municipality of Afula

does and fines anyone who parks illegally, in red zones/disabled spots/blocked vehicles, etc. I regret that you received a parking ticket, but the complaint should be directed to the municipality, not the parking lot. I wish you good health and a long life.

I didn't give up and replied to him:

Nissim, thank you for the response. I will pay attention to the sign next time I have to go to Emek Hospital. From the photo, it is not possible to understand if there are available parking spaces or not. It does not explicitly state whether the parking lot is full or not. When I searched for parking, I saw a significant number of cars parked in prohibited areas, meaning that despite having only 470 parking spaces, you still allowed in over 500 vehicles, each of which took a ticket that promised them parking. Is this "Quality, reliability, and service ?"

A scam or not a scam? I did not receive the service you committed to provide, and to exit the parking lot, I had to pay 25 NIS because I was in the parking area for more than a quarter of an hour while searching for a space. I reiterate you did not provide the service, you are not entitled to the payment. I request a link so I can know beforehand if there is a chance for parking before I leave home.

Jules Feldman

Well-said, Jules. If you have time on your hands, sue them in the small claims court...for all our sakes – Ed

**Yaniv Shapira - A farewell letter from the Meir Agassi exhibition
and from the Mishkan for Art**

The Mishkan for Art in Ein Harod is one of the most important art museums in Israel. Yaniv Shapira finished his work at the Mishkan about a year ago, after many years of professional growth, during which he also left his own mark on it as manager and chief treasurer.

Attached is a letter published by Yaniv at the end of the exhibition 'Meir Agassi: A Window to Dream of Beauty' in which he also refers to the end of his work at the museum.

I usually don't write closing, summary or farewell letters after exhibitions. I learned not to "fall in love" with the exhibitions I curate, no matter how good, important or exciting they are. The end of the exhibition 'Meir Agassi: A window to dream of beauty'

is also a closing of the circle regarding my many years of work at the gallery, so I feel the need to conclude and also to express gratitude.

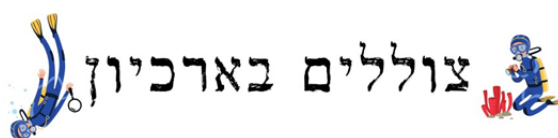
These are terrible days. At the beginning of the week, we were informed of the murder of six prisoners by Hamas and since that evening crowds have taken to the streets as an expression of anger and protest, in the war for our identity as a people and as a country. In the same breath I am writing about the exhibition, out of faith in the power and role of culture and art in times of war. I received a lot of exciting responses to the current exhibition, verbally and in writing and in meeting the many who visited it, I understand most of them saw it not as an expression of escapism, but as a source of the experience, consciousness and inspiration they received from it. The exhibition was like the endless "Babel Library" book by Borges, 'The Garden of Dividing Paths'. Like a spring it follows that every visit to it summoned new insights, discovery of new images, stimulated a need to understand more, to see more, to visit it again. In it, Agassi revealed himself as the artist of multiplicity, the artist of doubt, the artist of the small format, the artist of image and text, the artist of sensual and conceptual expression. I thought during it, about his behaviour as an artist. About the way he knew how to observe, see, process, interpret and write in such a generous way about other artists and at the same time about his artistic loyalty to himself, about the rowing against the current for the correct, accurate, complete expression. In the end, it was the organising and rational framework of the 'museum' that allowed it the freedom to roam without limitations in different times and places; 'conversing' with living and dead artists, writers and poet, to serve in the fields of dreams, imagination and surrealism.

And there was also the personal aspect. The first exhibition I curated at the Art Centre, Ein Harod was 'Meir Agassi Museum: Mental Space, Real Metaphor', in 2003. As fate would have it, my last exhibition at this museum, without planning or intending it, was dedicated to Meir Agassi. The two exhibitions also complemented each other. Since until today I didn't have the opportunity to say goodbye to the Mishkan as I would have liked, this is also an opportunity to cherish the place where I had a professional home - where I formulated my concept of art through meeting artists, curators and wide audiences. It allowed me a broad and clean point of view on the field of Israeli art, where I received tools, values and standards to approach the curatorial act as an action in the world, to a social house - where I accumulated countless moments, memories and experiences, of spiritual ascension alongside crisis management where I experienced the joy of creation and the sense of mission, commitment and mutual guarantee reserved only for teamwork, to a spiritual home where I could express my worldview, take a position in the world, including expressing the importance I attach to

tradition, delivery, continuity and innovation. A place that contributed to my development and enriched my world as a person, no less than I contributed to it as a treasurer and manager. I would like to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart, who were part of the current exhibition journey. In conversations, thoughts, dreams, insights, decisions, experiences, formation, design, hanging, setting up, support, tutorials and gallery conversations.



Yaniv Shapira, September 2024



Delving in the Archives

Yizrael's Representative at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics

A discussion with the historian Nir Man brought me to the story of Dodik Kushnir. Dodik, born in Kfar Yehezkel, arrived on Yizrael in 1950 as a member of Tel Gezer garin.

He ran the orchards and at the same time was Israel's champion in the long jump, triple jump, pole vault, 100-meter sprint and decathlon.

In the January 2013 newsletter, Shimona Matalon wrote:

"Dodik Kushnir, a member of Eliyahu's class at the Mikvah Yisrael, was the coordinator of the branch where I worked - the vineyard and the orchards, which were in the valley at the bottom of the hill (the "pear" plot, etc.). Dodik was in those years the Israeli champion in the long jump and the triple jump and was the first member of Yizrael to participate in the Olympics (Rome and Melbourne). Ask him how he worked in the orchards? So, it was like this - jogging - he would run a few laps around the vineyard - the water for irrigation came from the kibbutz to the bottom of the hill through an iron pipe, and from there, flowed in light aluminum pipes. It was necessary to close first, the tap in the main pipe, at the bottom of the hill, otherwise everything would blow up! No problem. Dodik would run up the path and close the water. My friend Rachel Goren thought she could help him, but since she wasn't a champion in the long jump, she fell into the wadi (it was not deep) and sprained her leg!

Competitions - there were competitions on weekends (in Tel Aviv, I think); that's why Dodik would finish the job a little ahead of us, run to the kibbutz, to take his training clothes, and from there by bus - to the competition. A little different from the life of athletes these days".

While still a member of Yizrael, Dodik represented Israel at the Melbourne Olympics in 1956. But members in 1956 did not have television and could not see our "member" in the Olympics in real time.

Dodik, his wife Ayala and their daughter Iris left Yizrael in 1957. Dodik went on to the Rome Olympics in 1960.

He had a long career as a physical education teacher and athletics coach and for many years was the coach of the national team in athletics. He passed away in 2020.

Submitted by: Jules Feldman



A new
exhibition
on the
walls of the
stairs in the
dining
room:

puzzles put
together by

**Omri
Zelas,**

colourful

pictures on a variety of subjects.





Programme for 15/09/24 – 19/09/24

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

Sunday 15 September

Opening the week with Monica.

09:10 Zoom with Dorot B'Gilboa – Around the World

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

Monday 16 September

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

10:00 Trivia and thinking games with Galia

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

Tuesday 17 September

10:00 Movie screening – Galia

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

Wednesday 18 September

09:30 Nature is Blooming – Hammotal Assaf

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

Thursday 19 September

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

09:30 "HaNogariah" with Noga Harpaz

17:15 Exercises on chairs with Michal Sha'anani

English is Fun - with Rahel

The sixth sense, the sense of humour, illustrates the amazing things that kids throughout write in science class.

Science fantasy and science fiction pervades student writing. It is truly mind-boggling what havoc our young Einsteins can wreak on the field of scientific inquiry:

- A liter is a lot of newborn puppies.
- The equator is an imaginary lion that runs around the world forever.
- The atom is composed of protons and electricians.
- Geometry was invented by Eucalyptus.
- We do not raise silkworms in the United States, because we get our silk from rayon. He is a larger worm and gives more silk.
- Vacuums are nothings. We only mention them to let them know that we know they are there.
- Comets are made of organic material, ice, and miscellaneous gases and are thought to be ruminants from the beginning of the universe.
- An optimist is a doctor who looks after your eyes. A pessimist is one who attends to your feet.
- A canal is a small stream of water made by man.
- Dew is formed on leaves when the sun shines down on them and they perspire.
- One of the main causes of dust is janitors.

- One by-product of raising cattle is calves.
- We know that Bigfoot exists because we have seen his dropping. They are human shaped.
- The pineapple is the chief product of the pine tree.
- Rotation of crops is so that they get the sun on all sides.
- Space is the final front tear.
- A fossil is an extinct animal. The older it is, the more extinct it gets.
- American time is behind British time because America was discovered later.
- The Earth needs the O-Zone layer to keep in the gravity.
- The climate is hottest next to the Creator.....more next week

Pool opening Times for September

Sun – Fri: 9:00-12:00

15:00-18:00

Sat: 11:00-16:00

Credits:

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Disclaimer: The Editor 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 Editor'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", photos and material that does not appear in the Hebrew Alon.