

## April Update – Part One

Hi



It's been an interesting month at Matzuva with a lot going on both to the physical appearance of the kibbutz and also in our community. As mentioned earlier Matzuva is gearing up for a year-long series of events leading up to its 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**"Man does not live on bread alone"** (Deuteronomy 8:3)

*"He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD".*

Israelis regularly refer to the scriptures and such like and this is the case with a committee of kibbutz members and future residents of "Nofey Matzuva" (our community village). The name of the game is to create a social link between the two communities. Other kibbutzim with community villages have had and continue to have problems finding the modus vivendi between kibbutzniks and their newcomers. Matzuva will do everything to avoid falling into such a situation.

So the "**Bread workshop**" was launched with many veterans and newcomers participating. They learnt about bread and its nutritious value, prepared and tasted healthy bread. Chef Avner Shai from Kibbutz Bet Haemek led the workshop with the 'gelling' team made up mainly of new and younger members and residents

A highly successful **Kabbalat Shabbat** was held the following Friday at the Betzet beach by about 90-100 Matzuva people witnessing a beautiful sunset over the Mediterranean and welcoming in the Sabbath. Each participant had a name tag and as they walked along the long beach and sang they were asked to introduce themselves to at least three residents they hadn't met before although they were living at Matzuva.

**Further gelling activities for Matzuva residents are in the pipeline.**



The Kadosh Family (new members) welcome in the Sabbath

**Matzuva Clinic:** Our clinic received fourth prize for its qualitative medical services from among 150 clinics in the Haifa and Western Galilee district of the General Health Services. Congratulations to the dedicated staff at our clinic!

**70 Years Matzuva Celebrations:** A committee has been formed to arrange events during the year with a lot of events scheduled. The credit crunch will obviously affect the scope of activities but it still promised to be a year celebrating the establishment of Kibbutz Matzuva way back in 1940. Details of events to follow in future updates.

**Holocaust Day** was marked with a ceremony at Matzuva attended by many members including our senior members many of whom are survivors of the Holocaust.

**Remembrance Day for Israel's Fallen Soldiers and Victims of Terror** : On the eve of the Remembrance Day the traditional ceremony at Matzuva was held at the memorial garden just below the swimming pool area. A torch was lit and the Israel Flag was lowered followed by the wailing of sirens throughout the Western Galilee. This morning a ceremony was held at the cemetery for Matzuva's fallen soldiers followed by a 2-minutes silence at 11 a.m. throughout the country.

Since the return to the Land of Israel 22,570 Israelis have perished through wars and acts of terrorism.

The population of the State of Israel today is 7,411,000 citizens – on the day Ben-Gurion proclaimed the State of Israel in 1948 there were 806,000 citizens.



**Israel Independence Day:** Tonight we begin Israel's 61<sup>st</sup> Birthday celebrations and gather on the lawn to the north of the moadon (clubhouse) with a ceremony beginning at 8 p.m. with the lighting of torches for the glory of Israel, followed by fireworks, dancing, singing, performances and refreshments. No doubt tomorrow the air will be filled with the aroma of food on the traditional barbecues on lawns in the kibbutz and everywhere else in Israel.

Already most buildings and cars on the kibbutz are bedecked with Israeli flags adding to the festive atmosphere.

**Matzuva Children's Day:** The traditional day devoted for our children is over the weekend of 22-23/5/09 with the Friday being just for Matzuva kids starting at 16:00 with amusement stalls and creative activities followed by the traditional evening meal for kids and a movie. The following day amusements, a pets corner etc. will be open to all friends of the kibbutz followed by the annual pantomime performance – this year it's a star-studded local talent starring in the Matzuva production of "**Alice in Wonderland**" – two performances during the afternoon. These are all-ticket shows and well worth the money. The producer is Hava Cohen with a cast of local talent.

Part 2 of the April Update will be devoted mainly to physical developments and infrastructure and other news at Matzuva.

Happy Independence Day Israel!

Have a very good weekend everyone

Take care  
Baruch

