

Some Like it Hot – 30+/65 July Update Matzuva

Every morning 6 a.m. latest I'm on my daily walk round the perimeter road. The regulars are usually walking the opposite way while other sporadic walkers are either in front of or trailing behind me. The weather at this time of day is usually pleasant and I see the sunrise from the east climbing over the border hill. Get home, make coffee for Irene and diligently check the thermometer and barometer outside the house. No it can't be? – maybe it's stuck because it's always hovering around 30° C. with 65% humidity and it's only 6:30! That's our reality in July with an occasional 'hamsin' wind thrown in! However, life continues at Matzuva with the aid of fans or air conditioning.

HUP HOLLAND 0 – VIVA ESPAÑA 1

Meanwhile, the obvious bias for Holland was evident at Matzuva during the World Cup (Mondial). Amir, one of our newer members owns the Norte pizza bar (in the reconverted "Matzuva Laundry" and used the month of football to set up a large screen opposite the bar covering the building opposite next to the old bus stop. Members and also our agricultural workers from Thailand would arrive to view games on the big screen while downing beers and eating pizzas served on the terrace of the bar. Despite all the bias it didn't help and as we all know it was Spain that lifted the cup.



SOME OF THE SOBER HOLLAND SUPPORTERS

Versus



A LONE MATZUVA 'SPANIARD' RUBBING IT IN !!

PHOTOS: MAX NATHANS

MATZUVA COMMUNITY VILLAGES

Visitors to Matzuva are amazed at the construction underway at Stage A and especially Stage B to the south of the kibbutz approach road. Stage A is more or less fully built up whereas the building underway at Stage B is mind boggling. In total towards autumn 2011 there will be 110 new families at Matzuva.

At the same time the plots left within the kibbutz are also in great demand and filling up. The Ulpan complex is now being settled by second generation Matzuva young families and a tender is out for the former country lodging complex opposite the tennis courts and 4 buildings are up for grabs with a lottery for Matzuva sons/daughters to be held during August. Stage C (on the hill behind the garage area today populated by chickens) is scheduled to be opened for families in 2015.

Stage D (to the west of perimeter fence) and is also destined for returning kibbutz youngsters (first option) with no timescale as yet (44 plots). I believe that there is already a waiting list for stages C and D.

Meanwhile families have built houses at the former children's farm area and the remaining plots are under construction and/or to be commenced very shortly. Photos of the new building projects can be viewed in Max's photo album on this website.

Community Village Association

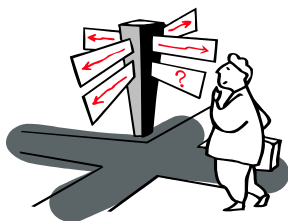
In all probability a new rural community association encompassing all Matzuva residents will become a reality sometime in 2011 and the "Matzuva Vision" teams are meeting regularly to thrash out issues of common interest. The community village association will include the "Agriculture Cooperative Association" which is in point of fact Kibbutz Matzuva of today with its physical assets.

Swimming Pool

As mentioned before, the swimming pool has been rented out to an operator for 5 years. The operator brought in at his expense heavy equipment and altered the depth of the pool to meet required stipulations. The pool is manned by kibbutz members and everyone who uses the facility has to pay an entrance fee or take out a season ticket for the entire summer. There are this year season ticket holders from Shlomi and Kabri (both pools being renovated) in addition to Matzuva residents. This arrangement is not without problems but is a temporary reality for a number of years.

Matzuva has planning permission for a larger pool to be constructed near the soccer field between the kibbutz and the community villages. I should imagine that the present pool will become real estate when this happens.

Matzuva Signposts



As mentioned last month new signposting has been erected in Matzuva according to national road requirements. However, not everyone is satisfied, not that the signposts are ugly or something, but they are not explanatory enough (and no English translations – checked it up told it would entail a 30% extra cost). There is now a call for members

to suggest neighbourhood signs and there is understandable misgivings at signposting the community villages as "Expansion A" and "Expansion B". Maybe something like using flower or tree names for the various neighborhoods would be more rustic. I shudder at the thought that our apartment might be called "95B Neighbourhood Gimmel ("C"). At the moment our apartment has a "Penny Lane, L15" outside which is appropriate as I used to live not far from that road in Liverpool.

Summer Celebration GIG

On Friday July 16th at 22:00 hours it's all going to happen. On the lush lawn in front of the old moadon (clubhouse) the masses will gather to welcome in the summer season. The kids have left the classrooms and are now enjoying organized summer activities during the next month. While the children rest after the day's exertions the adults will listen and participate in a performance by a caberet music group called "Overtune" singing Israeli songs with D.Paprika and Yaron Weizman (to be honest I've never heard of them) but there is definitely a guaranteed "Overflow" of liquid refreshments in barrels, bottles along with cakes and other goodies made by our Matzuva ladies. The atmosphere is guaranteed to be electric and the party, according to the organizers, will only end when the drinks run dry (probably the middle of the following week). The cultural committee is running this production and I'm certain our camera-man Max will record happenings as always for posterity (or at least until the drinks run dry). There is a modest entrance fee to cover the event and the booze.

Have a good weekend and until the next update – keep well and be in contact.

Best wishes

Baruch

Matzuva – July 2010



MATZUVA'S 70th YEAR



100 YEARS OF THE KIBBUTZ MOVEMENT