

KIBBUTZ MATZUVA IS TODAY CELEBRATING A 78TH BIRTHDAY

The clock always ticks away and as a 3 year old toddler born in Liverpool in 1937 my life was intertwined with the German "Blitz" (Bombing) of the **Liverpool** port being the source of the USA assistance of supplies to Britain. The residential area around the port area was **flattened** by Nazi planes with a heavy loss of life and destruction. I visited Liverpool a few weeks back with some of the family of 3 generations with 2 grandsons who were actually on a "heritage journey" to discover how the family arrived from Eastern Europe to Britain some of whom settled in the UK while the majority preferred to travel to the States. My wife Irene was born in **Rotterdam** Holland and as a baby spent 4 years with a Dutch Christian couple close to the German border until the end of the war in 1945. After the war Irene was reunited with her family.

In February 1940 the group of 29 youngsters who had arrived in Palestine having been sent by their parents from Nazi Germany crossed the northern road from their camp at Lower Hanita and established Kibbutz Matzuva on a barren hill purchased by the Jewish Agency from a rich landowner from Beirut in Lebanon. The hill was full of boulders and except for a number of carob trees it was without any water that had to be delivered weekly from Nahariya. The huts and tents from Lower Hanita were used by the fledgling kibbutz named Matzuva. All these events happened at the latter years of the British Mandate of Palestine until 1948. The name Matzuva was one of the settlements in the Tzur (Lebanon) area mentioned in the Talmud "Shetzet, Betzet and Pi-Matzuva". Betzet is a moshav on the western side of the small town of Shlomi. When the mandate came to an end in May 1948 the State of Israel was created with all neighbors declaring war against the fledgling democracy.

This weekend the kibbutz members met together at the moadon (club room) to celebrate Matzuva's 78th Birthday with a small exhibition from the kibbutz archives along with a Matzuva movie, singing, a quiz and tasty refreshments. /Baruch Kadmon

p.s. **Founder's Hill at Matzuva** – Despite the heavy rain of late... low and behold a large tractor has been working hard preparing the site for the ongoing work during the coming year.