

HOPE

SUMMER 2014 • ISSUE 02

DONOR UPDATE FROM TIKVA UK



CONTENTS

Page 1

Emergency Evacuation

Page 2

Search and Rescue Dinner
Daniella Loftus visits Tikva

Page 3

Family Matters
Falling for Tikva
Executive Director Update

Page 4

Caring for our Elders
Casino Royale Event Details
Young Tikva Event

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

The recent months has seen the largest number of casualties and bloodshed in the Ukraine. A rebel attack on a checkpoint in Volnavokna, East Ukraine, left 14 soldiers dead, pro-Russian rebels shot down a military helicopter near Sloviansk, which left another 14 dead. Most recently, separatists rebels took two Ukrainian bases in the eastern region of Lhansk as fighting continues near rebel-held town of Sloviansk.

Firearms were used in Mariupol where a group of Pro-Russians tried to take over a military base resulting in three deaths. We have increased security measures which include installing more CCTV cameras and guards in the orphanages, schools, synagogue and all public buildings.

In Odessa, the demonstrations had largely remained non-violent, however, one fateful weekend at the beginning of May tensions ran high with pro-Russian opponents of the Maidan camping in a central square, which resulted in clashes and 40 deaths on the city's streets.

As a result of continued consultations with the intelligence community, we made the decision to evacuate 600 children, students and Tikva staff to a campsite outside of Odessa. The evacuation

lasted two days, and so as not to scare the children, it was turned into a fun weekend break which was enjoyed by all. The Tikva staff mentioned that they had never seen the children so relaxed. Although the children have returned



Evacuation of the children

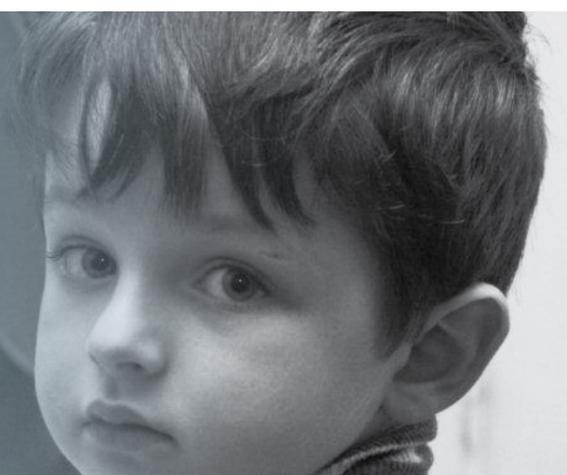
home safe and well, we have kept supplies at the camp site should another evacuation be required.

The combined costs of the evacuation and the extra security amounted to £250,000.

While things remain tense in the Ukraine, it seems that people are slightly calmer in Odessa and things are becoming quieter. We hope we have passed the most difficult phase of this crisis and while we expect demonstrations and isolated incidents, the feeling is that what happened in Odessa will hopefully not be repeated. We are in constant contact with the security intelligence community and are making informed decisions to ensure the children's safety on a daily basis.

Do you want to help a child like Anton?
Support Tikva's mission...
DONATE NOW

020 8209 9104 • info@tikva.org.uk • www.tikvaodessa.org.uk



TIKVA'S SEARCH AND RESCUE DINNER RAISES £1 MILLION

On Thursday 8th May the Millennium Hotel, Grosvenor Square played host to Tikva UK's Search and Rescue Dinner.

Only our second annual fundraising dinner, the 250 strong guests - which included, Caprice, Mitch Winehouse, Laurence and Ivona Kirschel, Glenn and Arabella Spiro, amongst others - were thoroughly entertained by actor and comedian Omid Djalili, who had the room roaring with laughter.

The event, which focussed on the Search and Rescue programme and the future of the approximately 2,500 Jewish children still to be rescued from the most unthinkable, horrific conditions, took on even more meaning as earlier that very same day, 600

children, students and Tikva staff had to be evacuated from the Tikva Homes to a campsite outside of Odessa.

Heartfelt speeches from Arabella Spiro and Daniella Loftus about the plight and experiences of the Jewish orphans in Ukraine and Former Soviet Union sent a clear message to the guests that their help is truly needed, appreciated and makes a difference. Refael Kruskal, Tikva CEO, also took to the stage updating the eagerly interested guests on the ever-changing, unpredictable situation in the Ukraine.

The event which honoured Anthony and Lauren Moshal along with the trustees of Yad Mordechai for their ongoing, tireless support was a huge success raising in excess of £1million.



Ayalla Kruskal, Linda Loftus, Daniella Loftus, Richard Loftus, Refael Kruskal



Laurence Kirschel, Martin Moshal, Rabbi Shlomo Baksht, Refael Kruskal



Ivona Kirschel, Omid Djalili, Arabella Spiro



Jane and Mitch Winehouse



Young Professionals Selfie with Omid Djalili

DANIELLA'S TIKVA EXPERIENCE

When making the decision to spend a month as a volunteer at Tikva my family and friends subjected me to the expression of extensive reservations. In particular, as one who has had the luxury of an unerringly loving family, I was warned of an immeasurable culture shock in the things I would both witness and experience.

What I saw in the children of Tikva far transcended their extensive Jewish knowledge. Never have I seen such expressions of kindness, selflessness and an unbettable-ingrained respect, for not only their elders but for each other. Small things such as the way each child served the next at meals before taking her own food, or ensured the others were sufficiently comfortable before settling herself.



I began with the prediction that my role at Tikva would be one of a teacher or mentor to the girls, but I left with friends, many of whom I am still in contact with now.

I have to admit that after two weeks at Tikva I found it almost impossible to believe that the girls with whom I was so close, had been sculpted by anything

more severe than the range of mundane experiences familiar to me and my friends at home. Ayala, the head of the girls home, is more than just a leader, she is a surrogate who perfectly encapsulates the values and foundation laid by Tikva. The unimaginably strong bonds between Tikva and the girls allow them to be filled with such a genuine happiness and contentment that they would be completely indistinguishable from those who had lived in nothing but comfort.

When one enters Tikva they are instantly enveloped by a community, which holds more warmth, more integrity and a greater penchant for hospitality than any other. As one who has lived with the children and experienced the work of Tikva first hand I can't help but urge you not only to support the organisation but also to visit the children. I could not have been more privileged to have had the opportunity of living at Tikva and I believe it to be a truly incomparable cause.

DID YOU KNOW: Tikva is responsible for:

- Reclaiming and renovating The Great Choral Synagogue on behalf of the community in 1997

- Running a Jewish social club for 130 young adults not affiliated with Tikva
- Holding Shabbat and Festive holiday celebrations for unaffiliated community members

FAMILY MATTERS

On Friday 9th May 2014 a baby girl was born in an Odessa hospital. Her name is Anastasia*.

She was born premature at seven and a half months and was being looked after in intensive care. Her lungs took a while to open and doctors were working around the clock to stop the bleeding that occurred on her brain. Most parents of premature babies hold vigil by their child's bedside - watching, hoping and praying day and night that their precious child will survive and lead a happy and healthy life. Unfortunately, Anastasia did not have her parents by her bedside; her father has been mostly absent, at some stages for years at a time. Her mother does not have a job nor is able to hold one down due to drug addiction.



Anastasia's arrival at Tikva infants' home.

Tikva staff were visiting Anastasia* on a daily basis, providing the love and care of parents, as well as helping cover the necessary costs of the medical care. Due to her great progress, Anastasia is now settling into the Tikva infants' home. She has an older sister called Sofia*, who also lives at Tikva. In September, she is due to go into the final year of Nursery. Sofia has gone from a scared, shy, introverted little girl to a very active, happy child who loves to sing and dance. We have been delighted to welcome Anastasia into the Tikva family, reuniting sisters in the process.

*We have changed the children's names to protect their identities



A second baby was born on 16th June to a 19 year old drug addict mother. She is the latest addition to the Tikva family and is yet to be named.

FALLING FOR TIKVA

Mendy Simon and Jordan Moses were crazy enough about Tikva to jump out of a plane and raised an incredible £3,500.



QUIZ BRUNCH

Kenton Committee Quiz Brunch

7th September 2014

11am – 2pm

Kenton Synagogue, Shaftesbury Avenue, Kenton, Middlesex, HA3 0RD

Tickets £10 per person

www.tikvaodessa.org.uk/events

FROM ODESSA WITH LOVE - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Writing this message has filled me with both joy and dismay in assessing the past six months at Tikva UK and Tikva Odessa; our celebrations, achievements, new initiatives, committees and events. These joys have been somewhat overshadowed by the unrest that has reached Odessa and ultimately the children.

We have had to increase security at our orphanages, schools and synagogue, and at no point has it been safe for the children to play outdoors. Unfortunately the situation was so threatening that we had to close the synagogue for a significant period of time. Furthermore, we have had to install extra CCTV and security and purchase extra food and drink should we have no choice other than to implement the two-tier evacuation plan. The situation got to a stage where those in charge of the care of the children

decided it was safer to evacuate 600 children, students and Tikva staff to a campsite outside of Odessa for the weekend. We have been so overwhelmed by the generosity of our supporters in response to the emergency security appeal. Thank you.

Here in the UK, our Annual Dinner, which focussed on the Search and Rescue programme and the approximately 2500 Jewish children still in need of rescuing, raised in excess of £1million. The guests thoroughly enjoyed the many tales and anecdotes actor and comedian, Omid Djalili had to offer. The Young Tikva Committee launched themselves onto the scene with great effect, holding a social night at the new and exclusive Drury Club in Covent Garden. They raised over £2,000 for the children in Odessa and, more importantly, stamping their presence here in the UK as the future of the charity. With lots still to look forward to including a high-end,

luxurious Casino Royale-themed night held in September at the Louise Blouin Foundation. Tikva has really captured the hearts and minds of the British Jewish Community.

We have had many reasons to celebrate in Odessa over the past year, with our alumni getting engaged, married and having children of their own. Children who have been saved, nurtured and loved by Tikva are now doing the same for the next generation.

I thank you all sincerely for the dedication, support and generosity you have shown Tikva and our children. We could not work without you!

K. Bodenstein

Karen Bodenstein
Executive Director



DID YOU KNOW:

• 70% of all boys who age out of State Orphanage take to a life of crime

• 60% of all girls aging out of State Orphanage go into prostitution

CARING FOR OUR ELDERS

At Tikva, we feel that it is part of our responsibility not only to rescue and nurture those Jewish children in need, but to also do the same with the Jewish community within Odessa. Revitalising the community and ensuring that everyone, no matter their age feel included and connected.

Tikva have therefore teamed up with Yedidut Toronto, Canada, with the specific purpose in helping the elderly in need. This program includes delivering food parcels to their homes and sending volunteers to make house visits. We have enlisted the help of

Tikva University to source volunteers to visit the elderly, comforting them with a more personal touch and attending to their basic needs. We feel that it is important for the students to have the interaction and connection with the older generation, who we are sure will relay stories of their Jewish community before the war.

Tikva has not stopped here with tending to the elderly in need. In response to a series of enquiries from the elderly within the community for a safe haven, we have secured premises which are now being refurbished to become a place where the elderly can socialise, rest and feel like they are part of a family and not alone.



One of the thousands of food parcels being delivered

YOUNG TIKVA

Media Buyers, Hedge Fund Managers, PR Experts and Catering Executives are the individuals who sit on the Young Tikva Professional Committee.

The committee, chaired by Sammi Rosen, held their exclusive VIP launch event on Thursday 27th February 2014, hosted and sponsored by The Drury Club, Covent Garden.



For one night, the members only club opened its doors to over 100 Tikva party goers for a VIP night experience. Raising over £2,000 for Tikva Children's Home in it's New York inspired interior, the guests were treated to a Drury Club specialty of a Poms cocktail whilst dancing the night away. Not forgetting what the event was for, committee Chair Sammi Rosen said: "The launch event was a great success everyone enjoyed themselves. Tikva is such a great charity. During my experience in Odessa and, seeing how the children are cared for and loved, has truly inspired me to set up this committee and is why we are all here tonight". She continued, "I have to thank The Drury Club for hosting the event, they have been amazing".



ROLL THE DICE AND GO ALL IN WHILST SIPPING ON COCKTAILS DESIGNED WITH LUXURY AND GOOD TASTE IN MIND

LIVE AUCTION FEATURING EXCLUSIVE PRIZES

THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2014

8PM TILL LATE

LOUISE BLOUIN FOUNDATION

3 OLAF STREET, LONDON W11 4BE

TICKETS £80 PER PERSON, INCLUDING £20 WORTH OF CHIPS

RSVP NICOLE MARGOLIS

INFO@TIKVA.ORG.UK | 020 8209 9104

WWW.TIKVAODESSA.ORG.UK

CHARITY NUMBER:
1151993

DRESS CODE: COCKTAIL

THERE WILL BE AN
APPEAL ON THE NIGHT

DID YOU KNOW:

• 15% of all children who age out of State Orphanages commit suicide

• There are still approximately 2,500 Jewish children still to be saved