



17 June 2019

Dear friends,

Rather than wait for my end of month report, I am writing now to share an amazing WIZO event with you – a true mitzvah.

At this time of the year, my Home WIZO Centre in Savyon, always invites me to the annual Bar/Bat Mitzva party, they organize for children whose parents cannot afford to organize a Bar/Bat Mitzva party for them. It is a very significant moment in a young boy's and young girl's lives and it is a very happy and memorable day – both for the boys, girls and for their parents. The children in the group live in the Gush Dan area not in Savyon.



Before I talk about the children, I would like to say a word or two about the parents. Although, they do all they can, low-income families in general, cannot always provide food, clothing and education for their children without help from the authorities. Significant milestones in their children's' lives like Bar/Bat Mitzva are for them a dream; some were sure that they would not be able to celebrate this important day – and it caused them much anguish.

The Bar/Bat Mitzva Party began in the Savyon Synagogue Centre where the children and their families gathered. The children and parents were very excited. The parents looked happily on, as their children, most of them dressed in white, received presents - a tallit, kippa and tfelin for the boys; candlesticks and a necklace for the girls.



Moti Landau - Head of the Savyon Local Council & Rafi Sued head of Moked Imun graced us with their presence and blessed the children. Rafi Sued is one of the donors who made the day possible. He has been doing so for quite a few years.

I wished them all, much happiness and success in the future

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Then the Rabbi took the boys and their fathers to the synagogue for their religious ceremony.



The girls remained at the Centre, where the Rabanit explained the significance of being a Bat Mitzvah, and showed the girls, with my help, how to conduct "Hafrashat chala". It does not matter how many times you "mafrisha chala" – it is always great



fun and the girl's excitement was contagious. Once all the chalot were ready, they were taken to a kosher oven – where they were baked and each girl, got to take her chala home with her.

The boys returned to the Savyon Synagogue Centre where a festive lunch was served, followed by some dancing and lots of fun, and more gifts were bestowed upon the children.

To see the Bar/Bat Mitzva children's joy, and the tears of pride in their parents' eyes while they were sharing in their children's special day, was very moving. It is a reminder that nothing should be taken for granted, and that even such a low-key celebration can create happy memories to last a lifetime.

Warm regards,

President, World WIZO





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We care. We share. We dare.



**PRESIDENT'S OFFICE**

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