



# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

Website address: [www.voicesisrael.com](http://www.voicesisrael.com)

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**Other Poems by Our Members  
(for members who are unable to be part of a Voices group)**

**Poems from Overseas**

**To – All March Birthdays – Happy Birthday. May your day and year be filled with happiness, good health, and may all your happy dreams come true.**



# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Poets,

First of all: last reminder! There's only one month left to take advantage of the Early Bird discount on renewing membership: so if you haven't already done so, do visit the Join Us or Renew Membership page of our website (<https://www.voicesisrael.com/join-us-or-renew-membership>) before the end of this month and renew by bank transfer, PayPal or cheque: full instructions are on that page.

As you will have seen from the notice sent out last week, **on March 29th we'll be holding our Annual General Meeting.** Jeannie Harrison, the daughter-in-law of our member Phella Hirschson, has very kindly volunteered her home near Tel Aviv University as the venue. If at the last minute we can't hold a face-to-face event, we'll just revert to Zoom, but we're confident that this time we'll be able to meet face to face at last! As usual, **we'll be holding an Open Mic at the end of the AGM. Please notify us as soon as possible, and at latest by a week before the meeting** (to me at [koren.judy@gmail.com](mailto:koren.judy@gmail.com)), if you'd like to attend the AGM and if you'd like to read at the Open Mic. A full announcement is in this newsletter.

Linda Suchy, our much-admired secretary, is retiring and Pesach Rotem is the sole volunteer to replace her. At the AGM we will ask for an official nomination of Pesach for secretary and vote on the resolution.

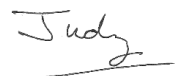
Meanwhile Elana Dorfman's workshop last month has been getting rave reviews. We're happy that so many people enjoyed it and found it fruitful. As usual for Zoomed workshops, we'll be producing an e-chapbook of all the poems resulting from the workshop that were sent in by the end of February. **If you want your poem included and didn't yet send it in, please do so NOW**, to me at [president.voices@gmail.com](mailto:president.voices@gmail.com).

**The submission period for the Anthology ends on April 14<sup>th</sup>, and for the Bar Sagi prize on March 31st.** Do remember to submit your best as-yet-unpublished poems for consideration for the Anthology, and please do continue to spread the word about the Bar Sagi Young Poets Prize to everyone you know with teenagers in the family and direct them to the Bar Sagi Prize page of our website: <https://www.voicesisrael.com/bar-sagi-prize>. Mention it on your Facebook pages and other social media – we need the publicity! We expect to hold a joint awards event for both the Reuben Rose competition and the Bar Sagi prize, in mid-April.

Finally, we're looking forward to holding the 2022 Netanya residential workshop, hopefully at the end of May. **If you have an idea for a workshop session for it, please, again, email me as above.**

With Omicron receding – and hopefully no new variant in the offing – we look forward to getting back to full in-person activities during this first half of 2022!

All the best,



Judy Koren, President, Voices Israel.

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## MARCH 2022 MEETING DATES, TIMES AND PLACES

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p><b>SOUTHERN</b><br/>MEETING VIA ZOOM<br/>THURSDAY, MARCH 24<br/>AT 5:00-7:00 PM</p> <p><b>Coordinator:</b><br/>Miriam Green<br/>Tel: 05-7388640</p> <p><a href="mailto:miriamsgreen@gmail.com">miriamsgreen@gmail.com</a></p>                       | <p><b>TEL AVIV</b><br/>MEETING VIA ZOOM<br/>TUESDAY, MARCH 22<br/>AT 7:00 PM</p> <p><b>Coordinator:</b><br/>Mark Levinson<br/>Mobile: 054-444-8438</p> <p><a href="mailto:nosnivel@netvision.net.il">nosnivel@netvision.net.il</a></p>   | <p><b>JERUSALEM</b><br/>MEETING VIA ZOOM<br/>THURSDAY, MARCH 24<br/>AT 7:30 PM</p> <p><b>Coordinator:</b><br/>Avril Meallem<br/>Tel: 02-567-0998</p> <p><a href="mailto:aemeallem@gmail.com">aemeallem@gmail.com</a></p>  | <p><b>WESTERN GALILEE</b><br/>NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED<br/>CONTACT PHYLLSIE FOR DETAILS</p> <p><b>Coordinator:</b><br/>Phyllsie Gross<br/>Mobile: 052-874-6880</p> <p><a href="mailto:phyllsie@hotmail.com">phyllsie@hotmail.com</a></p>                              |
| <p><b>HAIFA</b><br/>Meeting Via ZOOM<br/>TUESDAY, MARCH 15<br/>AT 7:00 PM</p> <p><b>Coordinator:</b><br/>Wendy Blumfield<br/>Tel: 04-837-6820<br/>Mobile: 054-524-0412</p> <p><a href="mailto:wendyb@netvision.net.il">wendyb@netvision.net.il</a></p> | <p><b>NETANYA/SHARON</b><br/>MONDAY, MARCH 28<br/>7:00 PM<br/>AT SUSAN OLSBURGH'S<br/>2/6 ZALMAN SHAZAR<br/>(3RD FLOOR) RAMAT POLEG</p> <p><b>Coordinator:</b><br/>Susan Olsburgh<br/>Mobile: 074-704-2736</p> <p><a href="mailto:olsburgh.susan@gmail.com">olsburgh.susan@gmail.com</a></p> | <p><b>UPPER GALILEE</b><br/>MEETING VIA PERSONAL ZOOM<br/>AND IN PERSON IF VACCINATED<br/>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9<br/>AT 5:00-7:00PM</p> <p>PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS MUST<br/>SEND REUVEN A SAMPLE POEM<br/>AHEAD OF TIME TO BE INCLUDED.</p> <p>FOR DETAILS:<br/>Call 04-697-4105 or write to:<br/><a href="mailto:poetsprogress@gmail.com">poetsprogress@gmail.com</a><br/>for a link &amp; guidelines.</p> <p><b>Coordinator:</b><br/>Reuven Goldfarb<br/>Tel: 04-6974105<br/>Mobile: 058-414-0262</p> <p><a href="mailto:poetsprogress@gmail.com">poetsprogress@gmail.com</a></p> | <p><b>GLOBAL GROUP</b><br/>MEETING VIA PERSONAL ZOOM<br/>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23<br/>AT 6:45 PM (ISRAEL TIME)</p> <p><b>Coordinator:</b><br/>Shoshana Kent<br/>Mobile: 052 808 9365</p> <p><a href="mailto:Y2nosh@netvision.net.il">Y2nosh@netvision.net.il</a></p> |

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## ATTENTION - IMPORTANT

**VOICES ISRAEL 2022 DUES:** Take advantage of a **special offer** of only **100 shekels (US\$35)** if paid until March 31, 2022. After March 31, dues will be **120 shekels (US\$40)**. Although we prefer payment by **bank transfer or via PayPal**, you may still send a cheque as in the past. For detailed instructions, see, <https://www.voicesisrael.com/join-us-or-renew-membership>.

**If you are a renewing member, you do not need to fill out a membership form.**

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### The Voices Israel Group of Poets in English announces the Third Bar Sagi Young Poets Prize Competition, 2022

The Bar Sagi Young Poets Prize commemorates a talented young Israeli poet, Bar Sagi, who died at the age of fifteen. The competition was established by Bar's family and is administered by the Voices Israel Group of Poets in English in consultation with Prof. Anthony Joseph, Bar's grandfather.

The competition is open to Israeli school students aged 12 through 19.

**Submission dates: November 15, 2021, through March 31, 2022.**

**Cash prizes will be awarded** to three winning poems: 400 NIS first prize, 250 NIS second prize, 100 NIS third prize. One or more other poems may be awarded an Honorable Mention.

**There is no fee** for entering the competition.

#### Competition rules and submission guidelines

- The competition is open to young poets aged 12 to 19 when the poem was written.
- Poets may use their whole name, first name, or a pseudonym. We will not publish any contact information.
- Poets submit by sending up to three poems, by email, in one file – either in the body of the email, or as an attached Word file – to [barsagivoices@gmail.com](mailto:barsagivoices@gmail.com).
- The parent or guardian's name and postal address, and the child's age when the poems were written, must be included somewhere within the document.
- Poems may be in any style and on any subject, but each must have no more than 41 lines (not including title), and they must be in English.
- Poems must be previously unpublished. The poets retain sole copyright of their poems.
- Prizes will be presented by Bar Sagi's family, and the winning poets will read their poems, at a prize-giving ceremony held by Voices Israel. This may be held separately, or together with the prize-giving for the Reuben Rose competition, Voices Israel's annual poetry competition for adults.
- The winning poems, and Honorable Mention poems if there are any, will be published in the annual Voices Israel anthology. Upon acceptance, a parent or legal guardian must sign a release allowing us to publish the poem.

For information about the competition and its winners, and PDF files of the winning poems from previous years, see <https://www.voicesisrael.com/bar-sagi-prize>.

For further questions, contact Susan Bell, the administrator of the competition, at [sujubell@gmail.com](mailto:sujubell@gmail.com).

Voices Israel is a fully accredited and approved organization registered since 1993 with the Israel Organizations Authority: number 580197036.

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Voices Israel sends prayers and loving thoughts to our member in Canada, Ellen S. Jaffe.

## CONDOLENCES

Sara Meir (BDE) of Haifa, a long-time poet of Voices. Condolences to her husband David and daughters, Michelle and Dafna.

## NEW MEMBERS

**KLARINA PRIBORKIN, ISRAEL**

**NISSAN ABADI, ISRAEL**

## A SPECIAL OFFER FROM JOHNMICHAEL SIMON

Johnmichael Simon is offering his chapbook design services to Voices Israel members and friends.

If you would like to possess a beautifully presented and published collection of your own favorite poems, please contact Johnmichael for details of this special offer at [johnmichaelsimon@gmail.com](mailto:johnmichaelsimon@gmail.com).

## CALLS FOR SUBMISSION (SEE SEPARATE DOCUMENT IN EMAIL)

## KUDOS TO OUR MEMBERS

**To – Judy Koren**, whose previously published poem “Tel Shikmona,” has won an Honorable Mention in the Society of Classical Poets’ “The Best Poems of 2021: the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual International SCP Poetry Competition.” It will be published in their printed journal.

**To - Hayim Abramson, Judy Belsky, Esther Cameron, Ruth Fogelman, Mindy Aber Barad Golembo, Hadassa Haskale (ח"ד), Judy Koren, Rumi Morkin, Pesach Rotem, and Michael E. Stone**, who all have their poems published in *The Deronda Review*, Vol. 9, No. 2, 2022.

**To – Rumi Morkin** (aka Miriam Webber) who will have two poems published in the March 2022 issue of *Lighten Up Online*, a digital quarterly webzine.

**To – Richard Savei-Tzion**, who has had two poems published in the *Weekend In Jerusalem* supplement of the *Jerusalem Post*, as parts of photo essays, one on the Hula Valley and the other entitled “Covid in Snow.”

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## Notice of 2022 Annual General Meeting Voices Israel Group of Poets in English

The **2022 Voices Israel Annual General Meeting** will be held – at long last! – in person. Phella Hirschson's daughter in law, Jeannie Harrison, has very kindly offered to host us at her home near Tel Aviv University. We rejoice in the opportunity to finally meet face to face and look forward to seeing there as many members as possible.

**Date: Tuesday March 29, 2022, at 6.30 pm**

**Address: 44 Tagore St, Appt. 48, Tel Aviv.**

**Registration:** so that Jeannie knows how many people to expect, please register in advance with our President, Judy Koren, by email [president.voices@gmail.com](mailto:president.voices@gmail.com)

**Deadline for registering: March 22nd (one week before the meeting).**

If you would like to **propose a resolution** at the AGM, please send it to Judy Koren at [president.voices@gmail.com](mailto:president.voices@gmail.com) *again at least one week before the meeting date, i.e. by Tuesday March 22nd.*

The meeting will be followed as usual by an **OPEN MIC** where members may read one or, if time allows, two poems each. **If you wish to read at the Open Mic**, please send your name and the poem title(s) to our President, Judy Koren, at [president.voices@gmail.com](mailto:president.voices@gmail.com) – again **by at latest one week before the meeting date**, i.e. Monday March 29th

**Poems for the Open Mic must be not more than one page long – a maximum of 40 – 41 lines. Shorter poems of course are welcome!**

Warmest thanks to our hostess Jeannie, and we look forward to seeing you all at the AGM and hearing you read your poems at the Open Mic.

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## Agenda for AGM Voices Israel Tuesday March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Meeting begins at 18:30.

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of 2021 AGM for approval
3. President's report
4. Adoption of treasurer's report
5. Election of new Secretary
6. Reuben Rose Poetry Competition report
7. Voices Anthology report
8. Membership report
9. Website report
10. Bar Sagi Competition Report
11. Regional group reports
12. Resolutions
13. Any other business

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