

# Introducing The Friends of Daniel for Rowing Association

In November 1993 a tragic accident cut short the life of Daniel Amichai Marcus, a promising young athlete. He was only 21. Since the age of sixteen, when Daniel attended a Jewish boarding school in England, his life revolved around his deep love for the sport of rowing. When Daniel died, his family decided to establish a memorial which would reflect his life and his love for the sport; this led to a decade of tremendous effort and actions to create a vibrant, dynamic centre for rowing in Tel Aviv. Together with the Tel Aviv Municipality and the Tel Aviv Foundation, the "Daniel Centre for Rowing and Nautical Studies" (the "DRC") was designed, constructed and finally inaugurated in October 2003. The family has now established The Friends of Daniel for Rowing Association (the "FDRA"), a charitable association which will support the DRC activities and sportsmen and women.



This newsletter is the first issue of "Ripples", the bi-annual newsletter of the FDRA. Every September and April (Daniel's birthday), members of the FDRA will receive a new issue of Ripples, which will outline the different activities at the DRC and update you on important developments. For example, in Issue 2 we will report on the DRC athletes who are preparing for the Paralympic Olympics in Beijing in 2008.

**Additional information about the Daniel Rowing Centre may be found on its website, at [www.drc.org.il](http://www.drc.org.il).**

# ripples

**issue 1**  
September 2006

Remembering Daniel

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## Remembering Daniel



Daniel was introduced to the sport of rowing at the age of sixteen, during his two years of high school at Carmel College in England. He quickly became an excellent rower and was elected to be captain of the school rowing team.

His own achievements, and those of his teammates, were very impressive – in particular, a silver medal that the team won at the National Championships in 1990. When Daniel returned to Israel and was enlisted to the Israeli Air Force, he spent what free time he had rowing on the Yarkon River in Tel Aviv, and his dream was to represent Israel in the Olympics, as Israel did not have then (and still does not have) an Olympic rowing team. Tragically, his dream was curtailed when he was killed with his three best friends in a horrific car crash on the Arava Road from Eilat to Tel Aviv, on November 6th, 1993, just months away from completing his military service. Daniel's family hopes that the DRC will perpetuate Daniel's zest for life by enabling others to experience and enjoy the sport he loved so much.

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## What's so special about rowing?

**“It's really about friendship, togetherness, discipline and striving for excellence.”**

Linda, Daniel's mother, will never forget running along the banks of the Thames at the National Rowing Championships, cheering Daniel and his team on to their college's greatest achievement in its rowing history: second place in the National Regatta in England. But what Linda most recalls was that Daniel asked her not to call out his name as she ran along in unison with the boat – but, rather, she should call out the name of the team. That's what's so special about rowing – it is a sport that requires great personal discipline but above all, except for sculling (a single rower in a boat), it is a team sport. One rower in the boat is so strongly dependent upon the others, that the entire crew must work as one to achieve great results. Daniel loved this

about rowing and it permeated other parts of his life as well. It's really about friendship, togetherness, discipline and striving for excellence.



# What's New?

## at the Daniel Rowing Centre

### Special Programmes for the Disabled

**“The highlight of their day was when they were helped into the boats and rowed on the River.”**

As we all know only too well, sadly Israel is a country which is replete with disabled people. Many of these men and women turn to sports to rekindle a sense of meaning in their life. To this end, the DRC, in collaboration with Beit Halochem (the “Fighter’s Home”) and the Israeli

Rowing Federation, created a rowing class for the disabled.

Another programme offered by the DRC took place in August 2005, when twenty blind and visually impaired youngsters (aged 13-30) were hosted by the Centre for a day of activities. They were allowed to touch the boats, participate in an exercise class using rowing simulators and the highlight of their day was when they were helped into the boats and rowed on the River. This activity was organized in collaboration with the Israel Sports Association for the Disabled as a pilot for future activities.



### Reaching Out to Disadvantaged Youths

An important aspect of the DRC’s activities is to introduce the sport of rowing, as well as the other nautical sports taught at the Centre, to disadvantaged youths who may not otherwise be exposed to these sports. Since its establishment, the DRC management and Daniel’s family have been lobbying to add Rowing to the educational syllabus taught at Tel Aviv high schools.

In the mean time, students from all over Tel Aviv – especially from disadvantaged areas – are bussed in every day for classes and rowing activities. Several of these students have signed up for after-hour activities at the DRC and have begun to show promise as potentially strong competitive rowers, kayakers and sailors.

### The Sea of Friends Programme

In June 2005 an educational pilot programme intended for youth was successfully launched at the DRC, in which sixteen fifth-grade pupils from four different schools in Haifa participated. The main aim of the programme is to encourage personal, communal and national leadership through the sports of sailing and rowing. As part of its social policy, Bank Hapoalim agreed to sponsor the 2006 Sea of Friends Programme, and since June, 2005 approximately 170 children from nine different schools have participated in it. Daniel’s family is very grateful to the Bank for their commitment and vision in supporting the DRC.



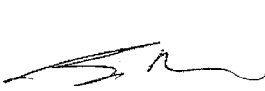

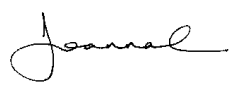
# A Message from Daniel's Family



As many of you already know, the Daniel Rowing Centre was inaugurated in October 2003, ten long years after Daniel's death. During these years we spent hours, days, weeks and months negotiating with Tel Aviv Municipality for just the right terms and conditions for the DRC, we experienced construction timetable complications and of course our vision was seriously set back by the tragic events of the 1995 Macabiah, which led to a strict ban on rowing on the Yarkon River, a ban which has recently been lifted.

We, Daniel's family, are thrilled to see our dream turning into reality. But there is still a lot of work to be done in order for the DRC to achieve its real potential. To this end, we are writing to ask whether YOU would be interested in joining us in our effort to ensure that the DRC maintains its unique character as a vibrant home for nautical sports in Israel.

We truly appreciate the help we have received over the years from many of our friends and acquaintances and hope that when you become involved in the DRC, you too will feel the sense of accomplishment that we do, knowing that we are fulfilling Daniel's dream.

 Huda Street  

## Join the Friends of Daniel for Rowing Association

The Friends of Daniel for Rowing Association is an Israeli registered charity (no. 085419943) with an aim of furthering the sport of rowing in Israel. The FDRA is governed by a board of directors, has an external auditor and complies with all of the rules and regulations relating to charities in Israel.

As a member of the FDRA you will enjoy the following benefits:

- 10% discount at the restaurant at the DRC (Mandy's By the River)
- 10% discount on use of the DRC gymnasium
- 20% discount on the cost of hosting an event, conference or seminar at the DRC
- Complimentary invitations to all public events taking place at the DRC

To join the FDRA please find an attached Membership Enrollment form. Alternatively, you can download this form (in English or Hebrew) from the DRC website at [www.drc.org.il/37](http://www.drc.org.il/37). Please fax the completed form to +972-3-741-0490 or mail it to:

### The Friends of Daniel for Rowing Association

Daniel Rowing Centre  
2 Rokach Blvd.  
Tel Aviv  
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Contributions to the FDRA may be made by check (to the Friends of Daniel for Rowing Association) and posted to the above address. For bank transfer information and any other information about the FDRA, please contact Ms. Renata Shmueli on +972-3-699-0484.