

Beit Oleh America Netanya AACI

Wilfrid Israel



Film screening and talk with

DR. ILAN BAER

10.30am Monday 14 May

Dr. Ilan Baer will present Yonatan Nir's acclaimed film, **Wilfrid Israel, the Savior from Berlin**, a fascinating movie inspired by the publication of Naomi Shepherd's biography of this remarkable man.

Wilfrid Israel (1899-1943) was the grandson of the first Chief Rabbi of Great Britain and the last heir of a German Jewish business dynasty that owned a department store in Berlin. His contacts in the British political establishment enabled him to play a vital role in rescuing thousands of Jews from Nazi Germany before and during the Second World War. He was a key link in the famous 'Kindertransport' in which ten thousand German Jewish children, without their parents, found refuge in Britain in 1938.

At great personal risk to himself, he saved many Jewish lives by working with Frank Foley, an intelligence agent who was Chief Passport Officer in the British Consulate in Berlin.

In June 1943, returning to England from Portugal on a mission to organize an escape route to Israel via Spain, he was killed when his plane was shot down by the Luftwaffe.

After his death, his good friend Albert Einstein wrote in a condolence letter to Wilfrid's mother "*Never in my life have I come into contact with a being so noble, so strong and as selfless as he was.*"

Ilan Baer is proud of his personal connection to the story. His father Uri Baer was a close friend of Wilfrid Israel and served for many years as Director of the Hazorea Kibbutz Museum, to which Wilfrid Israel bequeathed his valuable art collection.

The Kibbutz continues to honor his memory by publicizing the life of this "forgotten hero".

**Program takes place at Netanya AACI, 28 Shmuel Hanaziv, Netanya.
Members pre-paid NIS 20, Members at Door NIS 30, Non-members NIS 40**

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For further information and details about all our programs and activities please see our website:

www.netanyaaaci.org.il