



קליהל קהילה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 11 June 2005/4 Sivan 5765

Service Times

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	8.50 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	10.23 pm
Kabbalos Shabbos next Friday	7.30 pm

We welcome back **Mr Jonny Levy** who will be leyning for us this morning. We are grateful for all the help he has given to the Shul since December and we look forward to his continued involvement. Shavuot is almost here and tomorrow the Shul will be blooming with flowers and greenery in the same way that Har Sinai burst forth with colour at the time of Matan Torah (the Giving of the Torah). Read more about the Torah inside.

Reading of the Torah

Sedra synopsis:

Naomi Harris

Leyning: Naso

Jonny Levy

Hertz p 568 Soncino p 793

Haftorah:

Alan Rubenstein

Hertz p 582, Soncino p 810

We are delighted that over both days of Shavuot, the community will be celebrating two special birthdays, each with a delightful Kiddush.

On 1st day Yom Tov, Monday 13 June, **Hilary Segall** will be enjoying her 50th birthday, while on 2nd day Yom Tov, **Leslie Pollock** is kindly giving a Kiddush in honour of his 60th birthday. Mazal Tov and good wishes to both. Our Seudah this evening will explore some more Yom Tov themes. Come along and be part of the discussion.



*This week's 'Clayhall Kehilla' has been kindly sponsored by
Hilary Segall in celebration of her 50th birthday*

Children's & Youth Services

Reception to School Year 6

10.15 am – 11.15 am

School Years 7 plus

10.15 am – 11.30 am

Weekday Services

Shacharit: Monday to Friday, 7.00 am. Sunday @ 8.15 am.

Minchah: 1.15 pm, Monday to Thursday.

Ma'ariv: 7.30 pm every Tuesday evening.

Sunday breakfasts: 5 June, 9 July, 7 August & 4 September.

Plag Ha'Minchah



Plag Ha'Minchah is the earliest time for lighting candles for Shabbos and for davening Ma'ariv. During June and July, Friday candle lighting will be **slightly later** than 7.30 pm - our normal summer Minchah time. Next week the **correct** time for lighting Shabbos candles is **7.37 pm**.

Rabbi Update

As reported at the AGM, the HO's are naturally disappointed that, to date, we have been unable to make an appointment. Four candidates were interviewed and, although we were close to making a decision, the Shidduch was just not meant to be. However, we met the US Chief Executive and the Director of the Office of the Chief Rabbi last Wednesday to review the process. It was a useful meeting. What is quite clear is that the HO's will act in the best interests of the **whole** community. Better that we make the right appointment than rush in and make a disastrous mistake.

Shalom Magazine

Calling all budding writers and journalists to submit articles, and other items of interest to the Editorial team no later than **31 July 2005**. It's always a struggle coaxing people to write so please make a big effort. Similarly, advertisements are most welcome as this naturally increases Shul income! It would also be nice to see many more Rosh Hashanah greetings which, at £5 per insertion are extremely good value.

Ice Cream Kiddush

Sorry grown-ups, it's for children only! On the 1st day of Shavuot (Monday), the Children's Service will enjoy ice-cream cornets provided by the Ladies Guild. Of course, if your child is going to partake of the delicious ice-cream, they must attend the Service in the first place starting after the leyning.

Eat, Drink & Learn the Night Away!

Clayhall's *Tikun Leil Shavuos* is always one of the highlights of the year. Fine malt whiskies, lashings of gorgeous cheesecake, other edible delicacies and some great home-grown words of Torah provide the perfect blend for a terrific night-out! This year again, we are delighted that Freda & Leslie Pollock will be hosting the Tikun on **Sunday 12 June 2005, venue from the office**, from 11.45 pm until the wee small hours. The more that come, the greater the sense of *ruach* (spirit) and atmosphere. If you would like to contribute a D'var Torah, whether it be two minutes or twenty minutes, please speak to either Lester or Bradley. If you have never been to our Tikun before, you don't know what you have been missing. It's definitely worth the extra effort.



Today is **Day 48** of the Omer. It is an important mitzvah to orally count the Omer each day up to Shavous.

*Yizkor is recited on
2nd day Shavuos,
Tuesday 14 June, at
11.15am approx.*

Shul Library

The Shul library is not being used nearly as much as it should be. There are some lovely books to borrow that cover a wide Jewish subject choice. It is situated within the Ackerman Resource Centre at Sinclair House on the ground floor. You may borrow books during Shul office opening hours but you must let Michelle know first. Don't miss a great opportunity. Explore and discover!

NEROS Quiz

The annual NEROS inter-Shul quiz takes place on **Sunday 26 June** @ Chingford Shul. We still need team members and the four subjects this year are Israel, the Book of Ruth, History and General Knowledge. Contact Robin on 020 8220 6779 if you would like to take part.

Shavuos Times

Minchah followed by Ma'ariv will be at **8.00 pm** tomorrow evening, 11 June. As we must count seven complete weeks between Pesach and Shavuos, candle lighting and Kiddush cannot be done before **10.34 pm**. We will daven Shacharis at **9.15 am** on both mornings so as to give a little more time for those weary from the Tikun! There are very nice Kiddushim on both days of Yom Tov! Minchah on Monday and Tuesday evenings will be at **9.00 pm** with Ma'ariv following at **10.24 pm**. It's obviously important that we have a Minyan for all Services and we accept that, as this is a leap year, Shavuos is later than usual. Please make every effort to attend and feel spiritually elevated.

All Nite Tora-thon: adapted from www.aish.com

It is traditional on Shavuot to stay up all night learning Torah. Why? Since this is a declaration of priority; *Torah is worth staying up all night for!* Torah study is regarded as the most important of all mitzvos because it opens the door for observance of the other mitzvos. Says the *Talmud* (Shabbos 127a): **'The study of Torah is equal to the sum total of all other mitzvos.'** Our history demonstrates that the moment Torah is neglected, assimilation of the Jewish people into its environs makes its inroad. Without fail, every Jewish community in history that did not teach and study Torah as its first priority gradually disappeared. Beyond all the good, rational reasons, Torah is the mysterious bridge which connects the Jew and Hashem, across which they interact and communicate, and by means of which G-d fulfils His covenant with His people to sustain and protect them. It is therefore no surprise that Torah study is so central with us. It is the first blessing a newborn child receives. 'May he grow up to Torah, to the wedding canopy, and to good deeds.' The Siddur is replete with petitions to G-d to help us understand his Torah. This explains why, in a traditional Jewish community, the one who is looked up to and most admired is the scholar of Torah – not the entertainer or athlete. When we study Torah, we are not studying an abstract and arcane text of the ancient world. We are learning the way in which G-d wants us to live on this earth. We are engaged in discovering the essence of Judaism, which is to say, the essence of ourselves.

Get involved!

The Board of Management will shortly be discussing the new sub-committees that will be formed for the year ahead. We really want to involve non-Board members in their running. Please come forward to offer your help by speaking to the Honorary Officers. The work can be very satisfying and rewarding. Don't be shy coming forward!

Shacharis Minyan

Although we manage to sustain a Minyan virtually every morning of the week, there are occasions when we fall one or two short. However, we are reliant on at least three or four non-Clayhall people **each day** in order to make the requisite number of 10 men. For a Kehilla of our size, we should **easily** guarantee a Minyan for every Service. ***We should all be doing better.***

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