



קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 26 November 2005/ 24 Mar Cheshvan 5766

Service Times (Shabbos Mevarachim)

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	3.30 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	4.51 pm
Kabbalos Shabbos next Friday	3.39 pm

We wish Rochelle & Martin Franks and their respective families a hearty Mazel Tov on the birth of their daughter. The baby will be named this morning. Today is Shabbos Mevarachim when we bless the new month of **Kislev** (not long to Chanukah folks!). Rosh Chodesh Kislev is next Friday 2 December and Shacharis will start at the slightly earlier time of 6.50 am. Rosh Chodesh celebrates womanhood. It is not only a toast to women and a reminder of gratitude due to them, but it is actually declared a holiday on which women should not work.

Reading of the Torah

Sedrah Synopsis

Leyning: Chaye Sarah

Hertz p 80, Soncino p 118

Haftorah:

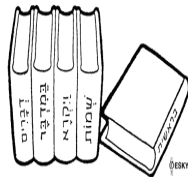
Hertz p 90, Soncino p 135

Naomi Harris

Rabbi Simon Harris

Richard Rubin

Rabbi Harris will continue his excellent series of Shiurim on Maimonides Hilchas Talmud Torah at our Seudah this afternoon. We are learning about the obligations one has to study and teach Torah. It really is good stuff - come along!



This week's 'Clayhall Kehilla' has been kindly sponsored by Hilary & Robert Segall on the occasion of Melanie's 15th birthday

Children's & Youth Davening Service

Reception - Year 6

10.30 am – 11.30 am

Year 7 - Year 11

10.30 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: 4 December, 1 January & 29 January.

Another Jerusalem thought



There are many prophecies linking the ingathering of the exiles with our Holy City. The redemption of Jerusalem and its return to Jewish hands is seen as the first definite sign of the redemption. As Isaiah said, 'Break forth in joy, sing together, O you ruins of Jerusalem, for G-d has comforted his people.'

Clayhall Youth Committee

We are pleased that our some of our younger members have formed a working group to discuss the format of the Youth Service and to plan outside events and activities for their peers.

Alison Mervish, Melanie Segall, Corinne Abrahams and Richard Jay have already held meetings for those young people from Year 7 to Year 11. The Youth Service is mostly taken by the youth themselves and numbers have increased over the last few weeks. There are plans to raise funds to help with future programmes. The Children and Youth Committee, chaired by **Bradley Mervish**, will assist and advise the Youth Committee. This is a very positive development.

Ladies Guild Dinner

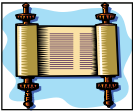
Come and enjoy a lovely dinner with **Lee Scott**, MP for Ilford North on **Sunday 4 December 2005**. The event is open to both men and women and the cost is £12.50 per person. Lee Scott was elected as a Conservative MP in May 2005. He is a former UJIA fund raiser and Israel is a subject very close to his heart. The Ladies Guild are hoping for good support. Funds raised will naturally benefit Shul activities.

Refueh Shelemah

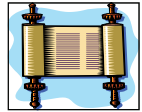
Would you ensure that any names of people that you want to include in the Refueh Shelemah prayer are added to the regular list. This might stop the growing queue around the Bimah. Please also bear in mind that the prayer is said for those people who are seriously ill or suffering from a chronic illness.

Avraham's Weeping

'Avraham came to eulogise Sarah and weep for her'(23:2). Avraham came from Be'er Sheva. Rav Bechaye asks why Sarah's name is stated here again when we have just been told in this same verse, 'Sarah died.' The explanation is that when eulogising it is proper to mention the name of the deceased several times. Rav Bechaye asks further, why it does not say that Yitzchak, too, mourned for his mother? The answer is that Yitzchak was not told of her death in order that he should not grieve that his mother had died because she heard that he had been bound to an altar. Moreover, Yitzchak did not return after the sacrifice. Instead he stayed on Mount Moriah for three years, until he was 40 years old, when he returned and married Rivkah.



There are still about 20 Yahrzeit plaques available. Please contact the Shul office if you would like to purchase.



Polo Fruits are no longer Kosher. Check updates on www.kosher.org.uk

Rosh Chodesh Group

The next ladies Rosh Chodesh meeting takes place the home of Anne & Mike Yeshin this Wednesday 30 November 2005. Contact the office for address, The excellent **Flora Frank** from the Board of Deputies is the guest speaker. Both Rabbi & Rebbetzin Harris have been lined up as guest speakers for future dates. Details will be published as soon as possible.

Kaddish Pamphlet

We are in the final stages of producing our own **Kaddish** pamphlet that will be sent to members with every Yahrzeit reminder. It explains the importance of saying Kaddish for the souls of the departed and lists times of all Services. Please act upon its wise words.

Shacharis Minyan update

Rabbi Harris has spoken to many members over the last few week in order to encourage a better attendance at the Shacharis Minyan. We are pleased that a few new faces have davened with the regulars during the past week and the Shul is very grateful to these individuals. However, there is still work to be done if we are going to sustain a strong and vibrant morning minyan. Our numbers have unfortunately reduced recently and two of our regulars are currently on holiday. **We all share a collective responsibility to each other.** It can be very embarrassing when we have to rely on non-Clayhall members to make up the numbers as it reflects poorly on the Kehilla. Please do your best to support Shacharis.

A Weekly Torah thought by Rabbi Simon Harris

This week's portion records how Abraham instructs his trustworthy servant, Eliezer, to find a wife for Isaac. Abraham made it clear to Eliezer that he didn't want his son to marry one of the local girls. He sends him to his birthplace to find a wife from among his close relatives. Our sages tell us that this was a difficult mission for Eliezer. In his heart he had always nurtured the hope that one day, Isaac would marry **his** daughter. This is because Eliezer was much more than Abraham's batman. He was in fact the most outstanding pupil of our Patriarch. So he felt it was not audacious for him to dream of such a match. His reluctance is reflected in his response: *"Perhaps the woman will not want to come with me"*. The Vilna Gaon observes that in this context *"perhaps"* means *"and I certainly hope she won't"*. Students of human behaviour concur - the use of the word *"perhaps"* reveals ambivalence.

On a totally different note we read that Abraham sent away the children of the concubines with *"gifts"* to the East. One tradition has it that these "gifts" are the wisdom which can be found with the gurus in that part of the world. A fascinating insight into the nature of human relationships is to be found in the last verse of chapter 24. *And finally...*

It states first that Isaac married Rebecca and she became his wife, and only after that he loved her. In real life this is true; you only grow to love someone after you have been under the Chupah with them.

Forthcoming Events

Three quizzes are planned for 2006. The popular Men's Sports Quiz takes place at Sinclair House on **Tuesday 10 January** while a Ladies only quiz is being organised by the Ladies Guild on **Tuesday 7 February**. An over-60's Quiz is scheduled for **Thursday 8 June** again at Sinclair House. Where applicable, put these dates in your diary.

Blue Tins

We aim to get **200** tins out by 31 December. If you don't yet have a tin, you will probably get a call in the next few weeks. Please help us by agreeing to have one. This year, over **£1000** has already been distributed to Tzedakah. You can help us to add to this mitzvah. If you do not receive a call, just phone the Shul office and we will gladly deliver a blue tin. Thank you for your support.

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