



קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 3 December 2005/ 2 Kislev 5766

Service Times

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	3.30 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	4.47 pm
Kabbalos Shabbos next Friday	3.37 pm

We are pleased that the roof of the Well has been repaired so no more leaks, wet seats and buckets of water! Jewish Care has also informed us that the fluorescent lights will be fixed very shortly. The light has deteriorated over the last year and, with winter almost upon us, the timing is fortunate. As Chanukah falls over the Bank Holiday period in a few weeks, the Education Committee is probably going to run an event on either the 28th or 29th December. Further details will be given soon.

Reading of the Torah

Sedrah Synopsis

Leyning: Toldos

Hertz p 93, Soncino p 140

Haftorah:

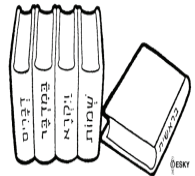
Hertz p 102, Soncino p 159

Harley Sapler

Rabbi Simon Harris

Gabriel Simons

It's important that we daven Minchah promptly this afternoon at 3.30 pm. Although it is a rush to get home, eat lunch and return to Shul, look on it as an opportunity for healthy living and good exercise - especially after all that Cholent!



This is the first week since the Clayhall Kehilla started that nobody is sponsoring it. £15 is great value so phone the Shul to book your date.

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



We see that virtually every major part of the service contains some mention of Jerusalem. Besides the fact that we must physically face Jerusalem, it appears that there must also be mention of the city in every prayer. By so doing, we actually help focus the prayer through the *Gate of Heaven*.

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.

United Synagogue CDG

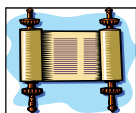
The United Synagogue's **Community Development Group** celebrated its 10th anniversary recently with a special evening in St John's Wood. CDG is described as the 'engine-room' of the United Synagogue. Aply led by **Leonie Lewis**, it has significantly changed the United Synagogue's face in the last decade. Clayhall looks forward to working with CDG as we begin to plan programmes for our future.

Refueh Shelemah

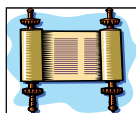
Would you ensure that any names of people that you want to include in the Refueh Shelemah prayer are added to the regular list. This might stop the growing queue around the Bimah. Please also bear in mind that the prayer is said for those people who are seriously ill or suffering from a chronic illness.

Anticipating the Torah

There was a famine in the land...and G-d appeared to him and said, 'Do not go down to Egypt' (26:1-2). G-d told Yitzchak, 'Unlike your father, who went down to Egypt during a famine, you were a sacrifice on My altar, and the lands outside the Holy Land are unworthy of your presence. Live in this land and I will give it to your descendants. This I will do, because Avraham listened to My voice (v 5) and was pious.' Our Sages learn from this that Avraham recognised his Creator at the age of three. Avraham lived 175 years while the word 'Ekev' meaning 'because' as in the above verse, is numerically equal to 172. Avraham listened to G-d's voice for 172 years from the time that he was 3 until his death. For Avraham obeyed the entire Torah before it was given.



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

Flora Frank's talk this week was extremely interesting, lively and uplifting. A dozen ladies attended and it would be nice if there was even bigger support for **Samantha Hambling**. She will be speaking on **Tuesday 3 January 2006** at the home of Anne and Mike Yeshin, address from the office. All ladies are most welcome to come along. Other speakers are being booked for

Kaddish Pamphlet

The Yahrzeit reminder letters now contain our own **Kaddish** pamphlet. The attractive leaflet explains the importance of saying Kaddish for the souls of the departed and lists times of our Services. We hope that the message will encourage more members to say **Kaddish**.

Encounter Mini-Conference

Chigwell & Hainault Synagogue invite you to a wonderful evening of Jewish learning on **Thursday 8 December 2005** at Limes Avenue, Chigwell from 7.15 pm until 10.00 pm. The first half of the programme from 7.45 - 8.45 pm is a choice of three speakers: **Rebbetzen Via Kimche** of Ner Yisroel, Hendon; **Rabbi Joseph Grunfeld**, founder and senior lecturer of Project Seed or **Rabbi Dr Naftali Brower** of Northwood Synagogue. The keynote speaker is **Rabbi David Aaron**: 'The Joy or the Oy of Being Jewish.' Canadian-born Rabbi Aaron is the founder and dean of *Isralight* which offers residential and leadership training in Israel and America. For further information contact **Rabbi Davis** on 020 8281 9878.

A Weekly Torah thought by Rabbi Simon Harris

Where you pause in a sentence is of critical importance. Depending on where you put a full stop or a comma you can totally change the sense of words. In this week's portion Jacob poses as his elder brother, Esau, in order to secure a blessing.

However, it's his mother, Rebecca, who is the driving force behind the charade. It is she who alerts Jacob. Rebecca says "I heard your father speaking to your brother Esau ...*make me delicacies to eat, and I will bless you before my death*". (Gen 27:6&7) Rebecca is determined that **her** favourite will become the next Patriarch and so **she** prepares dainties for her blind husband and clothes Jacob with garments from Esau's wardrobe. In addition, she covers Jacob's smooth arms and neck with kid-skins to give the impression that he is his elder brother. There can be no doubt that Jacob is genuinely uncomfortable with the ruse. "And he came to his father and said, *Father*, and he said, *Here I am; Who are you, my son?*" (ibid 18) And then comes the verse where the punctuation is everything. Non-Jewish translators read "Jacob said to his father, *It is I Esau your firstborn*".

But correctly rendered with the pause in the right place and bearing in mind that there is no equivalent in Hebrew for the word "is" it should read - "*It is I, Esau **is** your firstborn*". Throughout this dramatic episode you get the sense that both parties, Isaac and Jacob are feeling each other out. Jacob is trying to indicate his true identity, while Isaac is trying to grapple with the mixed messages he is getting. Our second forefather is especially suspicious when the son before him invokes **G-d** as the reason for the speed with which he has returned from the hunt. This is not the way Esau would talk. Isaac is beginning to realise that it is Jacob and not Esau who he is going to bless first.

Shacharis Minyanim

It's smoked salmon and beigel time again after Shacharis tomorrow with another great monthly breakfast. Let's see a few new faces for a change! We will be making a real effort in the next few months to encourage 'Dads and Lads' to attend, especially in the run-up to a Bar Mitzvah. Tefillin lessons are available either in Shul or in your own home.

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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