



# קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

*Shabbos 11 February 2006/ 13 Shevat 5766*

## *Service Times (Shabbos Shirah)*

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	4.25 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	5.56 pm
Kabbalos Shabbos next Friday	5.04 pm

Tomorrow evening and Monday is the **New Year for Trees**. Tu B'Shvat offers a unique opportunity for insight into living and personal growth. In the 16th century, the Kabbalists of Tzfat compiled a **Tu B'Shevat Seder**, similar to the Pesach Seder. They taught that Tu B'Shvat is an opportune time for fixing the transgression of Adam and Eve. It means enjoying the fruits of the tree, particularly those native to the Land of Israel, and discusses philosophical and Kabbalistic concepts associated with the day. Among other things, the Seder is a great way to appreciate the bounty that we so often take for granted, and to develop a good and generous eye for the world around us.

## *Reading of the Torah*

Sedrah Synopsis:

Leyning: B'shalach

Hertz p 265, Soncino p 407

Haftorah:

Hertz p 281, Soncino p 433

Don't forget that we daven Ma'ariv on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 pm in addition to Tuesday. Please do your best to support.

*Sara Freedman*

*Lester Harris*

*Leslie Linder*



*This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by Marlene & Michael Fingold in celebration of Joanna's engagement to Mark Saunders*

## **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 & Wednesday evenings.

Sunday breakfasts: 5 March, 2 April, 30 April and 28 May.

## **Tzitzis thoughts**



The Tzitzis and Tallis are reminders of the fact that clothes are the first visible characteristic which distinguish man from the animal - clothes remind us of the need to conceal the animal in ourselves and be constantly aware of the invisible G-d and His commands. Discipline and self-control are the key to human happiness.

## **Man Is a Tree - A Time to Grow**

The source for Tu B'Shevat is the opening statement of the Talmudic Tractate *Rosh Hashana*. This year on Tu B'Shevat, as you are gnawing that slab of chocolate, ask yourself: *Am I getting the spiritual food and shelter I need to survive, or is my tree being blown down by the forces of information overload and rampant materialism?*

*Am I part of a strong Jewish community, providing a warm and nurturing environment? Or am I cast into the pale bleak anonymity of urban life and cyberspace? Am I looking to future generations knowing that I am providing them with the proper foundations for their lives?*

## **Community Power**

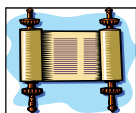
*An old man was planting a tree. A young person passed by and asked, What are you planting? A carob tree, the old man replied. Silly fool, said the youth. Don't you know that it takes 70 years for a carob tree to bear fruit? That's okay, said the old man. Just as others planted for me, I plant for future generations.*

## **Shacharis Services**

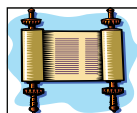
We are delighted that **Mr Yitzchak Landau** from Stamford Hill is davening with the Minyan again. He will leyn on Mondays and Thursdays, and give a short Halachah after the Service. David Miller has produced a new rota to ensure that the Minyan is never short. Even if you are not on the rota, please come along to daven at 7.00 am.

## *Tu b'Shevat Seder - Sunday 12 February*

The 15th of Shevat is known as the Rosh Hashanah for Trees, regarding the different tithes which are brought each year counting towards the seventh, *shmitah* year. Our Sages have designated the 15th of Shevat as the boundary between one year and another, since most of the rains of the previous year have already fallen. Any new growth of fruit after this day is a result of the blessings of the new year. Clayhall is hosting a **FREE** Tu B'Shevat Seder tomorrow evening **12 February** from 6.30 pm until 8.30 pm for all the family at Sinclair House. Just think of it - free wine (it's traditional to drink 4 cups at the Seder, like Pesach), lots of delicious fruits, light snacks, stories and good company. A perfect way to celebrate! See overleaf for a deeper Tu b'Shevat insight.



*Calendar forms have just been sent out for 5767. Please advertise birthdays, Simchas, Yahrzeits, etc.*



***Don't forget to send back your direct debit forms to the Shul office asap.***

### ***Shul Magazine***

Although Pesach is still four months away, the **Pesach** edition of the Shul magazine needs to be filled with your articles, news items and any other literary masterpieces that you could conjure up. The final submission date is **tomorrow** and we would be grateful if this deadline could be honoured. If you, or anyone you know, would like to advertise in the magazine, please let us know.

### ***Leyning***

The following people are leyning at Clayhall over the next three weeks:

11th February: **Lester Harris**  
18th February: **Rabbi Danny Shmulovitz**  
25th February: **Jonny Levy**

### ***UJIA/Redbridge Community Talk***

The UJIA and the Redbridge Community Shlichut are delighted to invite you to an evening with **Tzvi Yehezkeli** on **Thursday 23rd February 2006** at Sinclair House from 8.00 pm until 9.45 pm. Mr Yehezkeli is currently a Senior Reporter on Israeli television, Channel 10, responsible for covering all Middle East, Terror, Political and Islamic Cultural affairs. He made a name for himself when covering the Al-Qaeda terror organisation whilst reporting from Northern Iraq during the war. Tzvi is able to make an objective and knowledgeable presentation without the restraints of office. He has vast experience of the latest security and political developments. Admission is £3 for one person and £5 for a couple.

## ***L'Chaim to the Trees! (Rebbetzen Tzipporah Heller)***

According to the mystic tradition, Tu B'Shvat is a day of great significance. Our roots are securely embedded in *terra firma*. Our first experiences with reality are physical and tangible. Then we grow beyond our roots. We extend our branches toward the heavens as we search for connection and meaning. We devote our lives to the production of fruit. We yearn to leave an enduring mark that we too were here. A *tzaddik* - a holy person - is compared to an inverted tree. He draws his sustenance from the heavens and gives his fruit to the earth itself, and to any one who is of the earth. We all wish for lives of substance, but we grow weary. The mystic scholars ask: How does the *tzaddik* draw his strength? The answer is that he draws his strength from the **Tree of Life** itself. What is the *Tree of Life*? The *Tree of Life* was in the centre of the Garden of Eden. It gave us the spiritual nurture that made us not only human, but also enabled us to be holy. It had the power to do so because it was the mystic embodiment of the Torah, before that Holy book was put into words. We no longer live in a world characterized by refinement. Instead of being nurtured by the *Tree of Life*, we are all too conscious of the taste left by the fruit of the *Tree of Knowledge* of Good and Evil. That other tree offered us the desire for evil that is as vivid as our desire for good. Tu B'Shvat is the day we learn once more how to cultivate ourselves. While savouring the fruits, try to envision their root, the source of all life. Let yourself savour the spiritual essence of the Land of Israel, by eating its produce. ***(adapted from [www.aish.com](http://www.aish.com))***

### ***Postal People Wanted!***

In order to save money, the Shul personally delivers as many mailings as possible to members. This is naturally a time-consuming exercise to organise and we are looking for more postal volunteers to deliver envelopes in the local area and slightly beyond (Chigwell, Buckhurst Hill etc.) Give the Shul office a call.

### ***Quiz time folks!***

Here's a strange one to unravel! What is one thousand, one thousand, five hundred, one thousand, five hundred, three hundred? Believe it or not, this is a **Jewish History** question. Your answer should be sent to the Shul office by **Tuesday 14 February**. The winner will receive a bottle of the finest Palwin No.10 and he/she will be a very clever person!

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