



קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 18 March 2006/ 18 Adar 5766

Service Times (Parashas Parah)

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	5.25 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	6.57 pm
Kabbalos Shabbos next Friday	6.06 pm

We wish a hearty Mazel Tov to **Eli Simons** on the wonderful occasion of his Bar Mitzvah. Although this took place two weeks ago in Jerusalem where Eli leyned the Sedrah of Terumah, the family are celebrating their Simchah with us this Shabbos. Gaby and Eli will also be sharing the leyning. Raya and Gaby cordially invite the Kehilla to a Kiddush after the Service. Today it is **Parashas Parah** (the Red Heifer), the third of the three special Shabbasos before Pesach, and we will read the Maffir from the second Sefer Torah. A special Haftorah is also recited.

Reading of the Torah

Sedrah Synopsis:

Leyning: Ki Tisa

Hertz p 352, Soncino p 540

Maffir: Chukas (Bamidbar 19:1-22)

Haftorah:

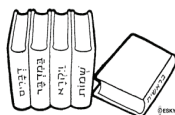
Hertz p 999, Soncino p 1194

Eli Simons

Gaby Simons/Eli Simons

Eli Simons

Sale of Chametz forms will be sent out next week. This is a very important Halachah. Should anyone need to seek Rabbinic opinion about Pesach (or indeed on any matter), the Honorary Officers can put members in touch with competent Rabbonim.



This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by Raya and Gaby Simons in celebration of Eli's Bar Mitzvah

Children's & Youth Service

Reception - Year 6

10.30 am – 11.30 am

Year 7 - Year 11

10.30 am - 11.30 am

Weekday Services

Shacharis: 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: 2 April, 30 April and 28 May.

A Pesach Thought



The Torah prohibits keeping Chametz from midday of Erev Pesach based on the verse *But from the first day shall you eliminate chametz from your premises* (Shemos 12:15). The Gemorra shows that *the first day* refers to the day of the Pesach sacrifice, the 14th of Nisan. The term 'But' limits this requirement to the second half of the day.

May is a Busy Month!

We will be holding a special Youth Shabbaton on **Shabbos 6 May 2006** to coincide with the Shabbos nearest to Yom Ha'atzma'ut. It will be a Clayhall-led event involving the local Orthodox Shuls. More details will be sent out nearer the time. Sinclair House will be holding its **Yom Ha'atzma'ut Gala Show** on Tuesday 2 May and, once all the information is published, we will send it to members. Again, Clayhall and Newbury Park Synagogue will jointly host a series of the Israel Film Festival on **Tuesday 9 May** at Sinclair House. This is the Festival's third year and this time, we will show one feature length film rather than three short films. So plenty to look forward to in May!

Pre-Pesach Lectures

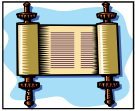
The Rabbinical Council of East London, Sinclair House and the Redbridge Jewish Community present '**Get ready 4 Pesach**' evening sessions this Tuesday 21st March and Monday 27th March. Among the range of speakers are Rabbi Jason Demant, Scholar in Residence at Yakar, Rabbi Daniel Rowe from Aish Ha'Torah and Mrs Bebe Jacobs, family educator. Phone the Shul office for tickets as soon as possible.

A real Whisky Crisis!

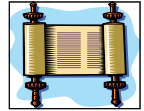
Last week's Purim spiel was deliciously swallowed by quite a few people at first. The fear of having drunk your last drop of heavenly malt was just too much for some to bear! This time the crisis is real though - **stocks are depressingly low** with not even enough to get us through to Pesach. Heard the one about the Kosher Pesach whisky?.....

Crown of all Festivals

The Chag of Pesach celebrates the central event of Jewish history, the redemption of the Jewish people from Egypt. The significance of this event is best evidenced by the fact that the Aseres Ha'Dibros begin with the declaration, 'I am Hashem, your G-d, Who delivered you from the land of Egypt (Shemos 20:2).' The very fact that G-d introduces Himself as Redeemer rather than Creator serves to emphasise His unchanging role as Director of all that occurs on this earth. The miracles during the period of the Ten Plagues and the crossing of the Reed Sea demonstrated vividly how completely G-d controls every aspect of nature. The giving of the Torah at Sinai was not only the result of the Exodus but, more important, the **purpose** of the Exodus.



Victor Shafier is taking orders for tubs and hanging baskets to raise funds for the Shul. Please speak to him direct.



**The Clayhall AGM
will be on Tuesday
16 May at 8.00 pm.
Keep it free!**

Rabbi Recruitment

The application closing date has now passed and the Honorary Officers will be short listing next week. Interviews may not take place until after Pesach - we will keep you posted.

Who said this?

"The Jew is the emblem of eternity. He whom neither slaughter nor torture of thousands of years could destroy, he whom neither fire nor sword nor inquisition was able to wipe off the face of the earth, he who was the first to produce the oracles of G-d, he who has been for so long the guardian of prophecy, and who transmitted it to the rest of the world - such a nation cannot be destroyed. The Jew is as everlasting as is eternity itself."

There's a special prize for the first correct answer given to Lester.

Parashas Parah

The third of the 'Four Parshios' is that of Parah and is read on the Shabbos that immediately precedes Parshas HaChodesh. We take out two Sifrei Torah and the Maffir comes from the first 22 verses of the Sedrah of Chukas in Bamidbar. The purpose of reading about the **red heifer** before Nisan is to remind all who had been defiled by contact with the dead, to purify themselves in order to be able to offer the Pesach sacrifice in its proper time. Although the Temple was destroyed and we have neither 'sacrificial-offerings' nor 'purification,' we nevertheless hold fast to the teachings of purification and we study its precepts at the proper time. It is therefore regarded as if we had cleansed ourselves from our defilement and rendered ourselves fit for bringing our offerings in their set time.

'Choice Spices'

This portion of the Torah dealing with the *Mishkan* and the Divine services closes with a discussion of three natural substances assigned to serve the ideal of holiness. Water is designated for consecrating the Kohanim (Ch 30:18); choice spices are used for anointing G-d's chief servants and the holiest objects; and sweet spices are allotted for the offering of incense (v 34). We do not know precisely how these elements are connected with holiness. Nevertheless, it is worth noting that each has a distinguishing characteristic. Water is the element that symbolises the ultimate in purity; choice spices are the product of plants from far-off lands. As for sweet spices, they form a mixture of sweet and repugnant odours. Accordingly, as the Torah brings to a close the chapters regarding the *Mishkan*, it seems to teach us that holiness is not bound to a given substance, nor to a given person or place. The most base and discredited substance or the one farthest removed from the site of holiness can still serve as an instrument for holiness, depending on how one uses it. No creature should be rejected completely, or barred forever from serving. What to us may appear foul and repugnant is nevertheless allowed to make its way to the ideal of holiness, to serve as a means of sanctification. For all that inhabits nature, even substances such as perfumes which man uses to help satisfy his sensual instincts, the supreme goal remains holiness in the service of Hashem.

Based on the teachings of Rabbi Eli Munk. *Would you like to submit a D'var Torah one week? Speak to Lester for further details.*

Days of Dedication

The final seven days of Adar are called the 'days of dedication' for on them Moshe dedicated the *Mishkan* after its completion. On the 1st of Nisan, the *Mishkan* was erected and Aharon and his sons served as Cohanim. The previous 7 days, Moshe alone served as Cohen. He put up the *Mishkan*, took it apart and brought the dedication offerings

Lag B'Omer BBQ

Our popular Lag B'Omer BBQ takes place on **Sunday 21 May 2006** as usual at the home of Deborah and Lester Harris. The application forms will be sent out shortly. Places are limited to the first 55 people who apply. Let's hope that the weather is kind as we still seem to be in the middle of winter!

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