



קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 25 March 2006/ 25 Adar 5766

Service Times (Grant Freedman's Bar Mitzvah)

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	5.40 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	7.09 pm
Kabbalos Shabbos next Friday	7.17 pm

We wish Mazel Tov to **Grant Freedman** on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah today. Vanessa and Lawrence have pleasure in inviting the community to Kiddush after the Service in celebration of their Simchah. We welcome back **Rabbi Nissan Wilson** from Edgware and also **Rabbi Moshe Muller** to Clayhall. It's a busy Shabbos as today is both **Parashas Ha'Chodesh** and **Shabbos Mevarachim**. We take out two Sifrei Torah and read a special Maftir (below) from the second Sefer.

Reading of the Torah

Sedrah Synopsis:

Leyning: Vayakhel-Pekudei

Hertz p 373, Soncino p 573

Maftir: Bo (Shemos 12:1-20)

Haftorah:

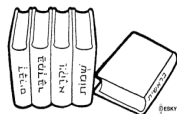
Hertz p 1001, Soncino p 1195

Grant Freedman

Rabbi Nissan Wilson

Grant Freedman

We're in for the long haul this morning with a long double Sedrah, an extra Maftir, and the blessing of the new month of Nisan. Rosh Chodesh Nisan is next **Thursday 30 March** and Shacharis will commence at 6.45 am.



**This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by
Vanessa & Lawrence Freedman in celebration of Grant'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 is more strict about chametz than with any other forbidden food. It prohibits not only consumption but also possession of chametz. The Arizal taught that one who avoids even inadvertent consumption of the tiniest piece of chametz during Pesach has earned for himself a special protection against sin for the entire year.

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

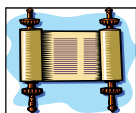
The Rabbinical Council of East London, Sinclair House and the Redbridge Jewish Community present the second '**Get ready 4 Pesach**' evening session this Monday 27th March. The guest speakers are Rabbi Daniel Rowe from Aish Ha'Torah and Mrs Bebe Jacobs, family educator. Phone the Shul office for tickets as soon as possible. The lectures start at 8.00 pm in the dining hall and finishes by 10 pm.

Nostalgic Evening

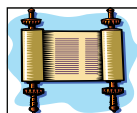
On **Tuesday 13 June 2006**, we are '*Going down the Jewish East End*' with Aumie Shapiro. It promises to be a nostalgic evening that also includes a bagel supper, and finishing with an East End Quiz. For just £9 you can reminiscence and test your memory. The evening starts at 7.30 pm and tickets can be bought through the Shul office.

A Moment in History

In stark contrast to secular holidays, Jewish Festivals are far more than mere remembrances of events that happened long ago. Each *Chag* has its own unique spiritual light which reflects the day's essence. Pesach is *'the time of our freedom.'* This does not just refer to physical freedom, for the redemption from Egypt was far more than a release from physical bondage. Israel had been corrupted by Egypt's sinful environment. It had fallen to the 49th level of spiritual impurity. When Hashem liberated the Jews, He lifted their souls from the baseness of falsehood and impurity to the loftiness of truth and purity. We must attune ourselves to the awesome sanctity of the holiday so that we absorb its great light and liberate ourselves from our own spiritual failing.



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!**

Ladies Guild meeting

The next Ladies Guild meeting is this Monday **27 March 2006** at 8.00 pm at the home of Ruth Abrahams, address from the office All ladies warmly welcomed.

Who said this?

"I will insist the Hebrews have [contributed] more to civilize men than any other nation. If I was an atheist and believed in blind eternal fate, I should still believe that fate had ordained the Jews to be the most essential instrument for civilizing the nations ... They are the most glorious nation that ever inhabited this Earth. The Romans and their empire were but a bubble in comparison to the Jews..."
Another chance to win a prize. Submit your answer to Lester by Sunday morning!

Parashas Ha'Chodesh

Our Sages decreed that on the Shabbos before the 1st of Nisan, or on Rosh Chodesh itself if it occurs on Shabbos, we read the chapter starting with the words, *'This month shall be for you the head of the months; it is the first for you of the months of the year'* (Shemos 12). Because of the importance of the month of Nisan, our Sages decreed that we should add a special section of topical interest to the usual Torah reading. The letters of the word *'for you'* (*lachem*) are the same as those of the word *'king'* (*melech*) and we should honour Nisan more than any other month. This reading also reminded the people that Pesach was approaching so that they could make preparations for the pilgrimage to Jerusalem. In particular, the mitzvah of the *Korban Pesach* was very important.

'The Treasure that is Shabbos' (based on Rabbi Elie Munk)

Rashi notes that this occurred on the day following Yom Kippur after Moshe had descended from *Har Sinai*. However, according to the *Midrash*, Yom Kippur was the day on which Israel was forgiven for worshipping the Golden Calf and the day on which the mitzvah to build the *Mishkan* was first given. While the other Mitzvos were affected by the sin of the Golden Calf, Shabbos, to which Moshe now adds new instructions, had not been tarnished. Consequently, when the Tablets were destroyed, the letters making up the commandment of Shabbos remained intact, while the other letters fled. That is why the Shabbos prayers include the phrase '*on which (the Tablets) is inscribed the observance of the Shabbos*' - the only letters that retained their original status were those about Shabbos. Immediately after the people were forgiven, Moshe informed them that this forgiveness was due in part to their Shabbos observance. Thus, he provided them with an additional reason for preserving the Shabbos as a real treasure in the future. The *Zohar* notes that the '*Eirev Rav*' (*mixed multitude*) who joined Israel upon their freedom from Egypt had turned their backs on Shabbos after they heard the words '*between Me and the Children of Israel*' (Shemos 31:17). They felt excluded and searched for their own leader and idol, ultimately, worshipping the Golden Calf. Shabbos is indeed reserved for the intimate union between Hashem and the Jewish people. Therefore, after those who were guilty of worshipping the Calf perished, Moshe assembled the people again calling them to respect the Shabbos.

Quiz Time!

Last week's quiz winners were **Adam Finegold** and **Sam Chaplain** who both gave *Tolstoy* as the correct answer. They each win a bottle of Kiddush wine. For this week, there can only be **one** winner. Here are two clues: the person is not living now, nor was he born in the UK. So get your thinking caps on and come up with the answer!

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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