



קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 6 May 2006/ 8 Iyar 5766

Service Times

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	7.55 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	9.27 pm
Kabbalos Shabbos next Friday	7.30 pm

We are delighted to welcome back **Jonny Levy** who will be leying for us today. We are very grateful for the help that he has given us over the last 17 months. Did you know that Clayhall is one of very few Shuls that encourage different people of all ages to deliver a Sedrah synopsis each week? Would you like to prepare one? You can join our ever growing group of men, young people and children who provide the Kehilla with a flavour of the weekly Torah Parasha. It might be a challenge but help is at hand. Speak to Bradley, David or Lester for more information and assistance.

Reading of the Torah

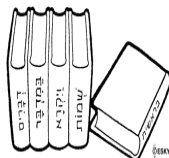
Leyning: Acharei-Mos:Kedoshim
Hertz p 480, Soncino p 705

Jonny Levy

Haftorah:
Hertz p 509, Soncino p 735

Ivor Ross

Our weekly Seudah is always a very special time. It's quite remarkable that, despite being without a Rabbi for 17 months, the quality of Divrei Torah has remained so high. This week, we shall explore the deep, mystical themes of **Lag B'Omer** - the 33rd day of the Omer that falls on 18 Iyar, this year corresponding to 16 May.



**This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by
Bertha & Sam Chaplain in honour of Sam's birthday**

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: 30 April, 28 May, 25 June & 23 July.

An Omer Thought



In some Chasidic circles, there is a custom to eat dairy on Lag Ba'Omer, In the writings of Kabbalah, wine and blood symbolise judgement, while water and milk represent compassion. The spiritual aura of Shavuot begins to manifest itself on Lag Ba'Omer, a day on which an abundance of Divine compassion flows from Above.

Israel Film Festival

In partnership with Newbury Park Shul, we are showing two excellent films next **Tuesday 9 May** at Sinclair House at 8.00 pm. The two films explore the issues and challenges surrounding a Minyan. In one case it deals with survival, in the other with the difficulty of accepting a disabled child. The first film 'Wasserman - The Rain Man' lasts for 58 minutes and was produced in 2005. The second film, 'A Pure Prayer' is shorter at 26 minutes and was made in 2000. Tickets are £4 and they can be purchased from the Shul office. Please do your best to support the event - it promises to be a really entertaining and stimulating evening. Past festivals have generated interesting debate!

Family Shabbaton

We want to run a 'Family Shabbaton' on **Shabbos 24 June 2006** for all children from school Year One to Year Six. Invitations would be extended to members of their family including older siblings. We have an excellent Guest Speaker in mind but he has not been approached yet. Further details will be sent out after Pesach but try to keep the date free. The event will be run through *Tribe* making it cheaper all round!

AGM 2006

The AGM takes place on **Tuesday 16 May**. Meeting notices have just been sent out to members. It is your opportunity to hear about the Shul's future plans and for you to voice any concerns and opinions in a fair and constructive manner. Voting starts from 6.00 pm and finishes at 8.00 pm when the AGM starts. It beats watching football!

Eat, Drink & Learn the Night away!

Clayhall's *Tikun Leil Shavuos* is always one of the highlights of the year. Fine malt whiskies, lashings of gorgeous cheesecake, other edible delicacies and some great home-grown words of Torah provide the perfect blend for a terrific night-out! Again this year, we are delighted that Freda & Leslie Pollock will be hosting the Tikun on **Thursday 1 June 2006** from 11.30 pm until the wee small hours. The more that come, the greater the ruach (spirit) and atmosphere. If you would like to present a D'var Torah, whether it be two minutes or twenty minutes, please speak to either Bradley or David. If you've never been to a Tikun before, you don't know what you've been missing. It's definitely worth the extra effort! There will probably be a Shacharis minyan at about 4.00 am.



Today is **Day 23** of the Omer. It is an important mitzvah to orally count the Omer at nightfall up to the eve of Shavuos.

We are very short of whisky so any offers would be greatly appreciated!

Calendar Insertions

Have you put your insertions in the 5767 (2006/07) Shul calendar. If you have lost the forms, you should find one in the latest mailing - just delivered! It's an ideal way to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, Bar/Bat Mitvas or to commemorate Yahrzeits.

Shacharis Minyan

Twice this week, we have fallen short of a Shacharis Minyan - this is very disappointing and demoralising for those who do attend. It's not that the Shul needs favours. Rather people should attend a Minyan because they genuinely want to. The Shul owns three sets of Tefilin and we would be very happy to provide practical help if necessary. There's nothing better than starting the day with a spiritual fix.

Professor Haralick to visit Clayhall

On **Shabbos 13 May**, Professor Robert Haralick a leading international expert on the Torah Codes will be speaking at Clayhall Shul. This has been organised by **Rabbi Matisyahu Glazerson**, father of Rabbi Zev Glass. Professor Haralick will speak in the morning and, again, at a special Seudah between Minchah and Ma'ariv. Times will be given next week. He is a distinguished professor in Computer Science and earned his Ph.D from the University of Kansas. He is now a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. Currently living in New York, Professor Haralick is deeply involved in the fascinating subject of Torah codes as indeed is Rabbi Glazerson. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn more about this ever-growing topic of study..

The great Rabbi Akiva

Historically, the time of Sefiras Ha'Omer was a time of rejoicing. Materially, it was the period when the crops were maturing and ripening. Spiritually, too, Jews were maturing and ripening from the freedom of Pesach to the Torah of Shavuot. Then, these days were plunged into mourning as the 24,000 students of Rabbi Akiva died during this time. To comprehend the enormity of the tragedy, one must remember the history of that era. The Roman Empire had destroyed the 2nd Temple and held the remnants of the nation in a cruel and iron grip. Rabbi Akiva was the greatest sage of his time, the pillar of the Oral Law, whose teaching was keeping the Torah alive. The sin of the disciples, the Talmud teaches, was that they did not accord sufficient honour to one another. Why was that sin punished so dramatically? At the outset, it should be clear that great men are judged by strict standards, and Rabbi Akiva's students were surely great. Their failure to show proper respect to each other was not in the least comparable to the sort of friction that permeates many a contemporary academic campus. Rabbi Akiva was the epitome of loving unity among Jews. It was he said, 'Love your fellow as yourself, that is the main principle of the Torah; the rest is commentary.' Yes, his Talmudim waged the battle for personal growth, but they begrudged one another proper credit for their accomplishments. One must be willing and even happy for others to be wise, righteous, wealthy, happy and blessed in any other possible way. A true lesson for all of us.

Nostalgic East End Night

Have you booked your seat for the Nostalgic East End Evening taking place on **Tuesday 13 June 2006**? Featuring Aumie Shapiro's film 'Going Down the Jewish East End', followed by beigels and tasty fillings, and finishing with a mini East End Quiz - all for just £9 per person. A limited number of tickets are available from the Shul office.

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. Places are limited to the first **55** people who apply and there are still places available. Return your application forms to the Shul office as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Clayhall United Synagogue

Sinclair House, Woodford Bridge Road,

Redbridge, Essex, IG4 5LN

Tel: 020 8551 6533

e-mail: clayhallsynagogue@hotmail.com