



קליהל קהילה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 3 June 2006/ 7 Sivan 5766

Service Times (Shavuos Day 2)

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	8.40 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	10.14 pm
Kabbalos Shabbos next Friday	7.30 pm

Welcome to our beautifully decorated Shul for Shavuos. We thank the ladies who arranged the lovely flowers as Shuls the world over are adorned with colour and greenery for this Chag. This custom serves to recall Har Sinai which was surrounded by foliage at the time of *Matan Torah* (Giving of the Torah). It is also a reminder that Shavuos, when fruits of the tree begin to ripen, is a time of Heavenly judgement regarding the coming fruit harvest; a time of judgement demands a heightened level of prayer. The Sages teach that the offering of the Shte HaLechem (Two Loaves) was brought on Shavuos in order to invoke G-d's blessing on the fruit harvest.

Reading of the Torah

Leyning: Re'eh

Hertz p 810, Soncino p 1067

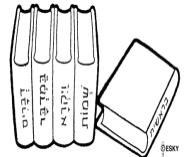
Eli Simons

Haftorah:

Hertz p 1032, Soncino p n/a

Eli Simons

We will be reciting Yizkor this morning before Musaf in remembrance of our loved ones. Hallel is joyously sung during Shacharis and the Book of Ruth (see for more details inside) is read straight after Hallel and before the leynung.



This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by new members Ruth and Boaz Field, Harvest Drive, Clayhall

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: 25 June, 23 July & 27 August

A Shavous Thought



Man cannot live on bread alone, nor can he survive on just water. Yet, one of the miracles of childbirth is that a mother's milk provides her newborn with all the nourishment it needs. In this sense, Torah is like milk, for it sustains our souls for spiritual vitality and growth. Thus milky foods of Shavous allude to the Torah itself.

Sinclair House

The Well floor has been completely sanded down, varnished and re-polished. The lounge carpet in front of the Aron Kodesh has been industrially cleaned. We are grateful to Jewish Care for undertaking this much-needed work. You will also notice that the new Bimah carpet has at last been joined by two matching mats! Again, our thanks are extended to the anonymous donor for the gift of the Bimah carpet.

Board of Management 2006/07

At the first Board of Management meeting since the AGM, several task groups were formed in order to provide a range of services for the Kehilla over the coming year. The six groups are:

Care and Welfare

Children and Young People

Education

Marketing and Communication

Membership

Each task group has a specific role to play and there will be much better interaction and coordination between the groups than before in order to achieve a high quality service.

Nostalgic East End

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 beignets 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.

The Book of Ruth

It is customary to read Megillas Ruth on the second day of Shavuos. Mention of this custom is found in *Tractate Sofrim* (ch.14) and in the *Midrash* (Yalkut Shimoni 596). Shavuos is called *Chag Ha'Katzir - the Festival of the Harvest*, when the first of the harvested wheat crop would be brought as an offering in the Temple (Shemos 23:16). Ruth entered the Land of Israel *at the beginning of the barley harvest* (Ruth 1:22) and married Boaz at the conclusion of the barley and wheat harvests. Immediately following the commandment to observe Shavuos the Torah states: *'When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not remove completely the corners of your field...for the poor and the proselyte shall you leave them...'* (Vayikra 23:22). *Ibn Ezra* explains this juxtaposition as an admonition that one not forget his obligations to the poor during the harvest season in which Shavuos falls. It was when Ruth who was both poor and a proselyte, went to gather the gleanings left for the poor that she and Boaz first met.

Who remembers the famous Shavous Clayhall lock-out? Wasn't it fun!!

Youth Service Update

We will shortly be submitting to *Tribe* (Young United Synagogue) a job description for a part-time Youth co-ordinator. The intention is for a professional person to lead the Youth Service twice a month, and to advise us on its structure and content.

Rabbi Recruitment

The Honorary Officers want to reiterate what was said at the AGM. There is a preferred candidate who has been approved by the Selection Panel and endorsed by the Board of Management. The Executive are now discussing contractual issues. Only once this has been successfully concluded can an EGM of members be called. Naturally, the process is extremely confidential to protect all parties involved.

The Book of Ruth (part 2)

The Book of Ruth poignantly describes the self-sacrifice of Ruth, who left her homeland in Moab where she had been a princess in order to live as a Jewess in the Land of Israel. She lived her first days in the land in abject poverty, gathering gleanings which had been left in the field for the poor. This teaches us that to truly attach oneself to Torah, one must be prepared to undergo material sacrifice and deprivation. Moreover, just as Ruth overcame all obstacles in achieving her goals of converting to Judaism, coming to the Land of Israel and marrying the righteous Boaz, so must every Jew not allow any difficulty to prevent him from clinging steadfastly to Torah and immersing himself in its study. These are two very powerful lessons indeed.

Dairy Foods on Shavuos

According to *Rama*, the custom of eating dairy foods on Shavuos is a remembrance of the *Shtei HaLechem, Two Loaves*, which were offered in the Temple on Shavuos. One is permitted to begin a meal with dairy, and after rinsing out his mouth and making other preparations based on custom and necessity, he may then eat meat. However, bread that was on the table when dairy was served should not be used with meat. Thus, by beginning the meal with dairy and ending it with meat, one is forced to use two different breads, a remembrance of the *Shtei HaLechem*. The *Chofetz Chaim* writes that it is customary to bake a dairy bread for the first part of the meal, for this will ensure that the bread will be removed before the meat is served. Generally, the Sages prohibited the baking of dairy breads, lest these breads be eaten inadvertently with meat. However, two exceptions to this prohibition are where only a 'small amount' of dairy bread is baked, or where the dairy bread is baked in a distinctive form which clearly sets it apart from regular bread. These exemptions are the basis for baking a dairy bread for the Shavuos meal. It should be noted that today many fulfill the custom of eating dairy in a way other than the one described above by *Rama*. *Halachah* states that Kiddush on Shabbos or Chagim be recited in conjunction with a meal. One may fulfill this requirement by eating the necessary amount of bread, cake or other food of the five grains following the recital of Kiddush over a cup of wine. On Shavuos day, many serve dairy foods with Kiddush, and later eat a meat meal. Since these grain foods are considered a form of bread, partaking of them and then eating bread at the Festival meal might also be considered a remembrance of the *Shtei HaLechem*.

Friday Night Carlebach

Next Friday night for Kabbalos Shabbos, **Bradley Rubenstein** will be leading a Carlebach-style service. Preceding this at **7.10 pm**, there will be a small malt whisky tasting soiree in honour of **Naomi Harris's** Bat Mitzvah. Come and enjoy!

Yom HaBikkurim

Shavuos is also called '*The Day of the First Fruits*' because it marks the start of the first fruits season when each farmer would bring to the Temple his first fruits from the seven types of produce with which the land of Israel is blessed.

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