

קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 15 October 2006/ 22 Tishri 5767

Service Times

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	5.25 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	6.57 pm
Shabbos/Yom Tov next week	5.42 pm

We wish a hearty Mazel Tov to our celebrants and their families; Chasan Torah, **Bradley Rubenstein**, Chasan Bereishis, **Michael Callaghan** and our Eshes Chayil, **Ruth Lyndon**. In addition, we also wish Mazel Tov to our Youth Chasan Torah, **Marc Alicoon**, Eshes Chayil, **Sara Freedman**, and to the Children's Service Chasanim, **Daniel Freedman** and **Yared Posnasky** together with the Eshes Chayil, **Rachel Freedman**.

Today's Kiddush is being donated by Pamela and David Grant in celebration of Craig's 18th birthday. Mazel to all the family. Over 40 people enjoyed a lovely Simchas Beis HaSho'evah in the Shul succah a few nights ago with great food & live music.

Reading of the Torah

Leyning:

Rabbi Nissan Wilson

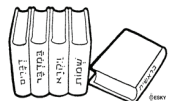
Hertz p 810, Soncino p 1067

Devarim (Re'eh) Ch. 14:22-16:17

Haftorah:

Rabbi Danny Shmulovitz

Rabbi Wilson serves up a most beautiful D'var Torah at our Seudah Shilishis (third meal). It is uplifting, inspiring, thought-provoking and interactive. Come along and savour the special atmosphere in the Shul Succah. The Seudah is followed by Ma'ariv at 6.57 pm.



This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by Yael & Mike Callaghan in loving memory of Yael's late father, Moshe Bezalel z'l

Children's & Youth Service (Shabbos)

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, Monday to Thursday.

Sunday breakfasts: 22 October, 19 November & 24 December

Casino Royale Evening

You are invited to a *Casino Royale* evening on **Sunday 12 November 2006** at Sinclair House organised by the fund raising task group. Tickets are £15.00 per person to include a champagne reception, buffet and 10 gaming chips. The evening will have a 1920's theme and guests are asked to dress to impress! All monies raised will be used for the benefit of the Shul. More details will follow shortly.

The Book of Koheles

We read the beautiful book of Koheles, written by King Solomon after Hallel today. The most familiar reason why this Book is read on Succos is that it describes the futility of worldly striving and extols the virtue of fear of G-d and His mitzvos. This theme is very appropriate to Succos, for the succah symbolises the futility of materialism and encourages man to live frugally under G-d's protection.

Hakafos tonight will start at **7.15 pm** but please be here in time for Ma'ariv at **6.57 pm**. Our celebrants look forward to celebrating in style with singing and dancing - and perhaps a few l'chayims as well! Let us all make this a Simchas Torah to remember.

NEROS 350th Dinner

NEROS is holding a special *350th Anniversary of our Return Celebration Dinner* at Wanstead & Woodford Shul, Churchfields, E18, on **Sunday 29th October**. The Guest Speaker is Dr Simon Hochhauser, President of the United Synagogue. **Rabbi Wilson** is also speaking. Tickets are £15 each for a chicken meal and the event starts at 8.00 pm. For further details and bookings, please call 8252 1105. Alternatively, the Shul office has a few tickets.

Future Events

Various task groups are busy planning programmes for the next few months and beyond. This includes a **Chanukah event** on Sunday 17 December, the revival of the ladies **Rosh Chodesh group**, a major **Shabbaton** in February, adult education courses, and much more. Watch this space for more details.

The Effect of Atonement

The true *Ba'al Teshuvah* is not one who only seeks to rectify his sins. True repentance entails a vigorous effort to plumb the depths of Torah in search of G-d's will. Such a person seeks to return to G-d not merely to avoid punishment for his sins or even to achieve atonement for his own soul, but rather in order to be a pure vessel for the service of G-d.

Simchas Torah constitutes a rededication to Torah study that is the result of a most pristine teshuvah. Jews are happy on this day that they can begin anew their service of G-d with a rediscovered wholeness of heart. While Shavuot celebrates the giving and acceptance of the first Tablets, Simchas Torah is the time when we joyously accept the second Tables given on Yom Kippur. We are able to do this with the special purity of heart that is the lot of the true penitent. Simchas Torah is thirteen days after Yom Kippur since the full purification of the soul which results from the thirteen attributes of G-d's mercy takes effect then. So, Simchas Torah celebrates the joy of atonement.

**Shul office closed on
Monday & Tuesday
16/17 October for
re-decoration**

Youth Service

Daniel Phillips, our new Youth Coordinator, has been encouraged by his first two weeks with Clayhall. Daniel wants to build a good, strong Shabbos core group. This will hopefully lead to more young people becoming involved as time goes by. Outside of Shul, Daniel will be arranging fun, social trips and the first such outing is planned for November. Daniel will be back in Clayhall for the beginning of Succos to run the Youth Service.

Competition Time

Who said: "I love the mitzvah of succah, for a man can enter it with his whole body, even with the mud clinging to the soles of his boots!" The first person to provide the correct answer to Lester over the next two days Yom Tov receives a bottle of table wine.

Special Speaker Event

Clayhall Synagogue and Sinclair House present **Rabbi Gideon Sylvester** from Israel on **Monday 6th November 2006** at 8.00 pm. Rabbi Sylvester is currently the Adviser to the Minister for Israeli Society & World Jewish Community in Jerusalem. He was formerly the highly successful Rabbi of the Radlett Shul. The Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency in London are bringing him over for a series of speaking engagements to coincide with the reading of the Sedrah of 'Lech Lecha.' He will be focusing on the meaning behind this Sedrah and its close connection to the Land of Israel. Organised jointly between Clayhall and the Community Shlichah, Revital Shloman, you can book your place by phoning on 8418 2114. Donation £3, includes refreshments.

Shemini Atzeres: Epitome of Love

The day following the 7th day of Succos is called Shemini Atzeres. 'The eighth day shall be one of assembly for you.' Bamidbar (29:35) Shemini Atzeres is a time when G-d showers the nation of Israel with a great outpouring of love, bonding them to Himself as the festival departs. It is a day which is reserved solely for Israel, in contrast to the preceding days of Succos during which the nations of the world also have a role. In Temple times, seventy bulls were offered on the Altar during the seven days of Succos, corresponding to the number of primary nations enumerated in Bereishis Ch. 10 (Succah 55b). These offerings had two purposes. One was to safeguard the gentile nations from affliction and to serve as a prayer for their physical sustenance. The Midrash declares that had the nations realised how much they benefited from these sacrifices, they would have sent legions to surround Jerusalem and guard it from attack. The second purpose was to symbolise the gradually diminishing power of the nations over the course of time. Thirteen bulls were offered on the first day, and the number decreased by one each succeeding day, showing that the power of those who oppose G-d's teachings will grow ever more weaker until, in Messianic times, the nations will accept His dominion under the spiritual leadership of Israel. On Shemini Atzeres a single bull was offered, representing the Jewish people. In granting us this holiday, G-d says to Israel, as it were, "Make a small banquet for Me so that I can enjoy your exclusive company." This is like to a king who ordered his servants to make a great banquet for all his subjects. When it was over, he asked his children to arrange a small meal where he could enjoy their company intimately, without the presence of outsiders. So too, following the offerings for the nations, G-d longs for the exclusive company of His beloved, chosen people. So, the single bull offered on Shemini Atzeres was symbolic of Israel's unique relationship with G-d. While all people are created *in G-d's image*, only the Jewish people are considered his children. Hashem does not want to part with his Beloved children. As the pilgrims in Temple times prepared to return home after Succos, Shemini Atzeres was G-d's way of declaring, "It is too hard for me to bear the separation. Stay with me just one more day. Please remain with Me just a bit longer."

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