



# קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

*Shabbos 25 November 2006/ 4 Kislev 5767*

## *Service Times (Lou Freedman's 90th birthday)*

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	3.30 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	4.52 pm
Shabbos next week	3.46 pm

We wish Mazel Tov to **Lou Freedman** on the truly wonderful occasion of his 90th birthday. The whole community wishes Lou many more years of good health and happiness. Lou, together with his family, invite the Kehilla to a Kiddush after the Service in celebration of their Simchah.

Tomorrow after Shacharis is Clayhall's monthly smoked salmon and cream cheese beigel **breakfast** replete with the usual lavish delicacies. You won't be disappointed!

The *2007 Really Jewish Food Guide* is now available. Packed with thousands of permitted foods and a comprehensive guide to Kashrus, it's a must for every good Jewish home!

## *Reading of the Torah*

Sedra Synopsis:

**Martin Greenberg**

Leyning: Toldos

**Rabbi Nissan Wilson**

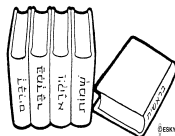
Hertz p 93, Soncino p 140

Haftorah:

**Robert Segall**

Hertz p 102, Soncino p 159

*We hold a fantastic Seudah Shilishis every Shabbos afternoon between Minchah and Ma'ariv. Enjoy food, drink, laughter, song and inspiring words of Torah from Rabbi Wilson. There's even a wee dram or two!*



***This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by  
Lou Freedman in celebration of his 90th 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, Monday to Thursday.

Sunday breakfasts: 26 November, 24 December & 21 January.

## ***Clayhall's Chanukah Party***

The date is **Sunday 17th December**.

The time is 5.30 pm. The fun begins with a Treasure Hunt for all to find the missing jar of oil. The lovely menu is hot salt beef sandwiches, latkes, salads and doughnuts. You might also win a fabulous 7-day holiday to Eilat if you hold the winning ticket for the Grand Raffle being drawn during the evening. Application forms are on their way. We look forward to seeing you there!

## ***NEROS Shul Quiz***

The annual NEROS inter-Shul quiz takes place on **Sunday 10th December 2006** at Newbury Park Shul, starting at 2.30 pm. Teams consist of three members and if you would like to take part, please call Robin Abrahams on 8220 6779. It's quite a few years since Clayhall got near the winner's prize!

### **100 Club Draw:**

The winners of the 100 Club Rosh Hashanah draw are:

1st prize: Louis Roat

2nd prize: Robin Abrahams & Barbara Mervish

## ***Top Golf Tournament***

**Alison Mervish's** heroic efforts were not quite enough in the Clayhall Top Golf Tournament last Sunday. In a closely fought contest between 20 players,

**Marc Alicoon** emerged victorious to lift the first prize of a brand new ipod Nano.

**Lester Harris**, although disappointed at not beating his old nemesis, Marc, nonetheless came through as winner of the adults (for what it's worth!) **Bradley Mervish** also showed that he has not lost the magic – probably because he never had it.

Stick to ten pin bowling, Brad! When

**Daniel Phillips** announced the final scores, there were loud cheers and rapturous applause. Embarrassing pictures coming soon on Shul website!

## ***Induction Service***

Rabbi Wilson's Induction Service will be conducted by the **Chief Rabbi Sir Jonathan Sacks** here on **Sunday 29th April 2007** at 3.00 pm. The Service will be followed by a grand tea. Invitations for all members will be sent out nearer the time but please try to keep this date free. It promises to be a great afternoon.

## *Melavah Malka and more!*

This past week has seen the start of Rabbi Wilson's 6-week Hebrew Reading Crash course - the beginning of many new adult education initiatives. On Motsei Shabbos (Saturday evening), **24th February 2007**, we shall be holding a Melava Malka at 8.15 pm. The Guest Speaker has not been confirmed to date but we are delighted that the excellent **Jonny Turgel** will be providing the musical entertainment. Jonny is the newly-appointed Chazan at Edgware Synagogue and a soloist with the Shabbaton Choir. He is well worth listening to. Please mark this date in your diaries and further details will follow soon. Tu B'Shevat (New Year for Trees) falls on **Shabbos 3 February 2007** and Rabbi Wilson will be conducting a special 'fruity' Seudah between Minchah and Ma'ariv. Purim then falls on **Sunday 4 March**. After Shacharis, a full 'festive' Purim breakfast will be served. To coincide with Yom H'Shoah (Holocaust Day) the Shul is trying to organise a trip to the Beth Shalom Holocaust Centre in Nottingham for **Sunday 15th April 2007**. Keep these dates free!

*Have you ever seen  
Rabbi Wilson play  
golf? Such a divinely  
inspired swing!*

### *Clayhall Cares*

As part of the recent Shul mailing, there is a flyer promoting several ways that the Shul is able to help those members and their families experiencing difficult times. Included in this are home and hospital visits, transport assistance and help with shopping. There are three alternative names and telephone numbers on the flyer for people to contact. There may be other ways that Clayhall can care - please just ask.

### *Clayhall Grand Raffle*

Our grand raffle first prize is worth a whopping **£1200**. Please sell as many tickets as possible as the draw takes place on Sunday 17th December (Chanukah). Expenses have been covered so all tickets sold benefit the Shul.

### *SOS - URGENT - SOS*

World Jewish Relief needs you to help move a mountain. Do you have two hours to spare by joining the **WJR Winter Packathon?**

Jewish Communities in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union are absolutely desperate to receive clothing for their families for the bitter winter. WJR has a mountain of 'good as new' clothing that needs sorting and packing. Just a few hours from a few people will make all the difference to the thousands in need. Come along on **Sunday 10 December** between 10am-12pm AND 12pm-2pm at the WJR Warehouse, c/o Asiatic Carpet Warehouse, 430 High Road, Neasden, NW10 2DA. Tel: 020 8451 9295. Help the WJR make a difference. To confirm your place, email [packathon@wjr.org.uk](mailto:packathon@wjr.org.uk). Thank You!

## ***"Your Birthright" (Toldos 25:31)***

As the sacrificial service is the responsibility of the firstborn, Yaacov said: *"It is not fitting that this wicked person should bring offerings to Hashem"* (Rashi). Much has been said about this pact between the two boys. Some critics see it as a children's game, having at most a certain psychological interest. Others think they see in it the first manifestation of the 'mercantile' spirit of the Jew, who knows how to profit from every opportunity and particularly from the ignorance of others. But both these views miss the point. The point here is that two concepts, two theses, two ideals confronted one another. The aim is the continuation of the spiritual heritage of Avraham and its application on a vast scale. In Yaccov's thinking, the firstborn's main task will be to ensure the permanence of family traditions and thus to carry on with complete continuity what the founder of the family had begun. For Esav, this responsibility is unacceptable. It involves considerable sacrifice and a devotion which would constantly curb his freedom to follow his innate tendencies. What is important to Esav is not a long and exacting labour which would bear fruit only after his death, but immediate enjoyment and momentary physical satisfaction. What would he do with his birthright which was more of a duty than a right? A mouthful of bread, a succulent plate of lentils, are of infinitely greater value to him than all these ideas. In Yaacov's mind, the sale of the birthright was but a proof of supreme scorn, which he had long suspected. And it was hardly any question of Esav's renouncing his rights to a material inheritance - in what follows we see that Esav goes on to acquire a considerable fortune and become rich and powerful. But as for Yaacov, the possessions which he will manage to acquire in Lavan's house will be the fruit of dogged labour and not a fortune obtained through inheritance. *Rashi* gives an interpretations of Esav's reply, *"I am going to die."* The birthright is unstable and will disappear. The sacrificial service will not always remain the responsibility of the firstborn, for later it will pass to the Tribe of Levi. Besides, what does this service consist of? There are so many precautions to take, so many sanctions, transgression of which is penalised by death...*I am going to die on account of it, so why should I want it?*

***(Based on the teachings of Rabbi Elie Munk)***

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