

קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 13 January 2007/23 Teves 5767

Service Times (Joshua Henderson's Bar Mitzvah)

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|----------------------------|---------|
| Shacharis | 9.00 am |
| Minchah followed by Seudah | 3.40 pm |
| Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends | 5.10 pm |
| Shabbos next week | 4.12 pm |

We wish a hearty Mazel tov to **Joshua Henderson** and his family on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah today. Clayhall warmly welcomes all our visitors over Shabbos and we hope that you enjoy the friendliness and warmth of the community. Evette and Brian have great pleasure in inviting the Kehilla to Kiddush after the Service in celebration of their Simchah.

Today we bless the new month of **Shevat** by reciting the Birchas Ha'Chodesh prayer before Musaf. Rosh Chodesh is next Shabbos. More about this next week!

A reminder to all our ladies that the next **Rosh Chodesh group** meets this Monday 15th January - full details are inside.

Reading of the Torah

Sedrah synopsis:

Joshua Henderson

Leyning: Shemos

Immanuel Burton

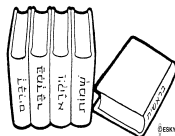
Hertz p 206, Soncino p 319

Haftorah:

Joshua Henderson

Hertz p 225, Soncino p 345

Every Shabbos afternoon/evening between Minchah and Ma'ariv, we enjoy a Seudah Shilishis (third Shabbos meal). The atmosphere is convivial, light and fun while Rabbi Wilson's words of Torah are always superb.



*This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by
Evette & Brian Henderson in celebration of Joshua'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, Monday to Thursday.

Sunday breakfasts: 21 January & 18 February.

Ladies Guild

The Ladies Guild AGM will be taking place on **Tuesday 27th February 2007** at Sinclair House. Further details and voting papers will be sent to all ladies nearer the time. This presents a good opportunity for ladies to discuss how they would like the role of the Ladies Guild to develop. The Ladies Guild Shabbos will be celebrated on **10th February** where the contribution of all of our ladies will be honoured.

Adult Education Series

Rabbi Wilson has been busy putting together an excellent 4-week Jewish History Series. The series feature three great speakers, **Rabbi Daniel Rowe**, **Mrs Shanni Solomons** and **Rabbi Nissan Wilson**. It starts on Wednesday 24th January with 'King Solomon - Wealth, Wisdom & Wives.' The talk on 31st January is for **ladies only** given by Shanni Solomons, who was a very popular speaker at our Rosh Chodesh group recently. On 7th February, the excellent Rabbi Daniel Rowe speaks on 'Maimonides - Physician and Philosopher.' The series concludes with Rabbi Wilson's lecture on 'Rabbi SR Hirsch - The Battle for True Judaism.' Full details are in the Shul mailing.

Tu B'Shvat Seudah

We will celebrate Tu B'Shvat - *New Year for Trees* - with a special fruity meal. This juicy feast will be graced by a special guest speaker, wine, whisky and the usual unique blend of Clayhall song and banter. It takes place on **Shabbos 3rd February** and follows Minchah at 4.00 pm. The good news is that it is traditional to drink four cups of wine starting with white wine and then gradually moving towards full red! Confused? Then come along and find out why.

Champagne Purim!

Purim very conveniently falls on Sunday 4th March with the first Megillah reading on Motsei Shabbos 3rd March. A champagne breakfast on the Sunday will include great food, lots of drink and some frivolous frivolity! What about the rumour of a thespian event involving the Rabbi and Honorary Officers? Never!

Melavah Malka Line-up confirmed!

On Motsei Shabbos (Saturday evening), **24th February 2007**, we shall be holding a Melava Malka at 8.15 pm. Application forms and further details have just been sent to members in the recent Shul mailing. It will be an evening of entertainment and inspiration, complemented by a beautiful, three-course, hot fish supper - all for just £13 per person.

Places will be offered on a first come, first served basis and it is important to return the form with payment no later than 12th February. We are honoured and privileged that our Guest Speaker is **His Honour Judge Martyn Zeidman QC** who will speaking on the subject, 'Crime in a Sentence.' Following an illustrious legal career at the Bar, Judge Zeidman now sits as one of Her Majesty's Judges at Snaresbrook Crown Court. He is an outstanding and much sought-after speaker. We are also 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.

An exciting pre-Pesach programme runs from 13th March with the Chief Rabbi!

Rosh Chodesh Group

Talented educator, **Shoshana Tugendhaft**, will speak on the subject of '**The Evil Eye and How To Avoid It**'. Shoshana, formerly Rebbetzin at Ohr Yisrael Synagogue in Elstree, is a busy mother of four, who gives regular lectures to women in London. We look forward to another great Rosh Chodesh event. Join us on **Monday 15 January** at 8.15 pm. Call the office for venue

Ladies Guild Supper Quiz

The annual Ladies Guild Supper Quiz (ladies only) takes place on **Tuesday 6th February 2007** at Sinclair House. Doors open from 7.00 pm and the excitement begins at 7.30 pm. Tickets £10 each. More details to follow.

Grand Gala Concert

Clayhall Shul proudly presents an all-star Gala Concert on Sunday 4th February 2007 at Sinclair House starting at 8.00 pm. Featuring the Israeli/English Mezzo-Soprano, **Ruti Halvani** accompanied by soloist, pianist and composer **Peter Dale**, the evening promises to be a real cracker. Ruti Halvani has graced radio, television and many stages in Israel, Europe and America. Her performance with Peter Dale will combine the operatic Israeli Diva with the English jazz virtuoso. Also appearing is comedian, **Chris Carlson**, making a return visit to Clayhall. He will take a wry look at life as it used to be, taking his audience on an hilarious stroll down memory lane. Tickets are £15 per person available from the Shul office (inc. light refreshments). Don't wait to book!

The Blessing of Ephraim and Menashe

Yaacov, realizing he is about to die, gathers his 12 sons to receive a blessing. But first, he calls upon two of his grandchildren – Yosef's sons Ephraim and Menashe to receive blessings. Why would Yaacov place priority on blessing grandchildren over children? The Sages explain that even more than the joy of having children is the joy of having grandchildren. Why is this so? Most creatures in the world have parent-child relationships like a mother lion protecting her cubs. But only the human being has a concept of grandchildren, of perpetuation beyond a single generation. This is an effect of our spiritual soul which is rooted in infinity. Being a grandparent therefore connects us deeply to our uniqueness as human beings. There is further significance to Yaacov's blessings. One of the most beautiful customs in Jewish life is for parents to bless their children at the start of the Friday night Shabbos meal. Girls receive the blessing: "May G-d make you like the matriarchs Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel and Leah." Boys, meanwhile, are blessed "to be like Ephraim and Menashe." What happened to the patriarchs Avraham, Yitzchak and Yaacov? Why were Ephraim and Menashe chosen instead as the subjects of this important tradition? Ephraim and Menashe were the first set of Jewish brothers who did not fight. Avraham's two sons – Yitzchak and Yishmael - could not get along. The next generation of Yitzchak's two sons – Yaacov and Esav - were so contentious that Esav repeatedly sought to kill Yaacov and instructed his descendants to do the same. And even the next generation of Yaacov's sons sold Yosef into slavery in Egypt. Ephraim and Menashe represent a break from this pattern. This explains why Yaacov purposely switched his hands, blessing the younger Ephraim before the older Menashe. He wished to emphasize the point that with these siblings, there is no rivalry. For there is no greater blessing than peace among brothers. **(Adapted from an article by Rabbi Shruga Simmons)**

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