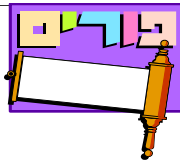




קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 24 February 2007/6 Adar 5767

Service Times

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	4.50 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	6.19 pm
Shabbos next week	5.28 pm

We are delighted that **110** people will be attending our annual Melava Malkah this evening. Please check the table plan on arrival. We have tried to accommodate everyone's seating wishes where stated. It promises to be a very enjoyable and entertaining evening. The event will begin promptly at 8.15 pm and should finish by about 10.45 pm. Clayhall Shul is privileged to welcome to the Melava Malkah our esteemed guest speaker, **His Honour Judge Martyn Zeidman QC**, and our musical impresarios, **Jonny Turgel & Stephen Levey**.

This Tuesday evening is the Ladies Guild AGM beginning at 8.00 pm in the Board room of Sinclair House. All ladies are invited. Don't forget to return the **Purim Champagne breakfast** forms to the Shul office by tomorrow morning. More details inside.

Reading of the Torah

Sedrah synopsis:

Sidney Cohen

Leyning: Terumah

Rabbi Nissan Wilson

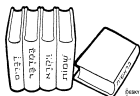
Hertz p 326, Soncino p 500

Haftorah:

Russell Cohen

Hertz p 336, Soncino p 515

Shacharis tomorrow morning (Sunday) will take place in the Lounge and not in the main Shul as normal.



This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by Sidney Cohen in celebration of his 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: 4th March (Purim) & 25th March.

Pesach Canal Cruise

The United Synagogue is running a Pesach Canal Cruise in and around Birmingham! Did you know that *Brum* has more miles of canal than even Venice? Application forms will be sent out shortly for this extraordinary event. The cost is £275 per person and the cruise is for the first 4 days only. Places are limited to the first 30 applications. So for floating and potentially soggy-Matzo Sedarim, apply to the US.

Sinclair House

We know that there has been much speculation in recent months about the possible relocation of Sinclair House. Whatever might happen will take several years and it is quite possible that nothing will change at all. The Honorary Officers will act in the best interests of the Shul, and members will be kept informed of developments. We enjoy a very warm and close relationship with Jewish Care, something valued by both parties.

Great Purim Extravaganza

Clayhall will be celebrating Purim in style on Sunday morning, **4th March 2007**. Shacharis will begin at 9.00 am (at last - a lie in!) followed by the Megillah reading at 9.44 am. We will sit down to a scrumptious and elaborate champagne breakfast at 10.27 am, culminating in the fancy dress parade and **play** at 11.09 am. The all-star premiere performance of the Purim musical, *'The Rabbi and the Golem'* has received rave reviews from its Broadway run last year. The whole morning is yours for the ridiculously low price of just £2 per adult and £1 for under-16's. Return the booking form to the box office by 26th February for prestige dress circle seats.

US Website

The United Synagogue has launched its brand-new and excellent website. Log on to **www.theus.org.uk** and you will be amazed at the both the quantity and quality of the content. The Kashrus Guide for example is now available online and food product checks can be run, providing instant answers to kashrus queries!

Pre-Pesach Programme

We have three mouth-watering and Matzo crunching pre-Pesach sessions beginning at Sinclair House on **Tuesday 13th March** when Rabbi and Rebbetzin Wilson will run a *Pesach Cleaning Made Easy(ish)* workshop. The following Tuesday, the Rabbinical Council of North East London presents '*SPEEDLearning - 9 Rabbis. 18 minutes. Your Choice*' followed by a keynote speech from the **Chief Rabbi Sir Jonathan Sacks**. The SPEEDLearning Rabbis are, Rabbi Odam Brandman, Rabbi Baruch Davis, Rabbi Beni Fleischer, Rabbi Geoffrey Hyman, Rev Stewart Myers, Rev Johnny Lorraine, Rev Gary Newman, Rabbi Aryeh Sufrin and Rabbi Nissan Wilson. Bookings forms for the 20th March event will be sent directly to members and there is a £3 entrance charge. The third session takes place on Tuesday 27th March with Rabbi Wilson 'Creating an Interactive Seder.' All three evenings begin at 8.00 pm followed by refreshments. Please make every effort to attend as the series promises to be fun, inspiring and educational.

*US President
Simon Hochhauser
coming to Clayhall on
Shabbos 17th March.*

Quiz Mania!

The recent Ladies Guild supper quiz was very successful and it raised over £600. On Tuesday 17th April, it's the men's turn with another popular and highly competitive sports quiz. The action begins after Minchah and Ma'ariv at 8.00pm with a beigel and beer supper. Tickets are £8 and the details have been sent out in the recent Shul mailing. Please do your best to support the event with funds going to the Shul.

Shabbaton...coming

The action is happening thick and fast at Clayhall. On **Shabbos 16th June**, Rabbi Dovid Roberts from Netzach Yisrael Shul in Edgware will be our guest Shabbaton speaker. He is a scholar of great repute. Another diary date!

Purim Evening - Motsei Shabbos

The Megillah reading on Saturday evening, 3rd March, will begin promptly at 7.00 pm followed by a L'Chaim and refreshments.

Hebrew Reading Course

Rabbi Wilson would like to run another 6-week Hebrew reading crash course after Pesach. The first course was very successful and it really is possible to read Hebrew competently after just 6 weeks! Rabbi Wilson already has a few names on the 'interested list' but would you please speak to him directly if you would like to participate in such a course. It really is a worthwhile and rewarding experience. Do something amazing and give yourself the chance to read the Holy tongue.

They Shall Make a Sanctuary for Me (Shemos 25:8)

Rashi is careful to avoid any hint of anthropomorphism in this mitzvah by explaining that it was to be a Sanctuary in honour of Hashem's Name rather than a dwelling place for Him. But others like *Ramban* (Nachmanides) hold that G-d commanded the B'nei Yisrael to build a Sanctuary over which the Shechinah, the reflection of His Majesty, would hover in the pillar of cloud. This Divine Presence amid the people of Israel signifies their supreme consecration as a holy nation. G-d, Who revealed Himself to them spectacularly on Har Sinai, still remains close to them, but now His Majesty is enveloped in a veil which conceals it from the sight of common mortals.

The Book of Shemos, adds *Ramban*, is devoted to Israel's first exile (Egypt) and subsequent redemption. But this redemption could only reach completion through the return to the heritage of their ancestors, the Patriarchs. However, the B'nei Yisrael did attain the high spiritual level of the Patriarchs at *Matan Torah* and at the time the Mishkan was built. So, the exile actually ended, in the spiritual sense, well before they entered the Promised Land. That is why the book of Shemos concludes with the building of the Tabernacle.

Rambam (Maimonides) contends that the Sanctuary was meant to keep the Jewish people from idolatry and to orient them towards G-d. His Sanctuary and His rituals are part of a general plan intended to limit the cult of sacrifices, a vestige of pagan religion. This was to be done by allowing such practices only in the Tabernacle, and later, in the Temple in Jerusalem.

The ultimate objective is the spiritual training of the Chosen People for the great ideals proclaimed in the Revelation (Guide to the Perplexed 3:45). Other commentators argue that the Sanctuary has an important symbolic value in and of itself with a goal to raise man to the ultimate level of holiness. All the parts of the Tabernacle and the numerous details of the sacrifices represent specific ideas and principles which are to be reflected in the souls of the Israelites. According to the Kabbalists, the Tabernacle represents a microcosm of the universe, reflecting the deepest truths about life and universe. On an infinitesimally small scale, the Tabernacle reflects the universal source from which life and blessings emanate to all the spheres of creation.

(Based on the inspiring teachings of Rabbi Elie Munk)

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