

# קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

*Shabbos 27 October 2007/ 15 Mar Cheshvan 5768*

## *Service Times*

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	5.00 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	6.31 pm
Shabbos next week	4.17 pm

The Kiddush is being given today by **Aish Essex** as a thank you to Clayhall Shul. Equally, the Shul is very grateful to Rabbi Zev Glass and his colleagues for bringing an important and exciting dimension to the area and, in particular, to the Shul.

We have an exciting and varied programme of educational and social events over the next few months. Details can be found in this week's *Clayhall Kehilla* and further information will be sent to members in a Shul mailing this week. Much time and effort has been spent in discussing and organising the programme and it is hoped that the community will give it the support it deserves.

## *Torah Reading*

Sedra synopsis:

Leyning: Vayera

Hertz p 63, Soncino p 86

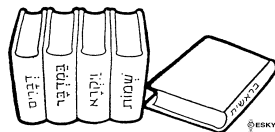
Haftorah:

Hertz p 76, Soncino p 113

*Richard Rubin*

*Rabbi Nissan Wilson*

If you know of anyone who is unwell, in hospital or awaiting treatment, would you inform either Rabbi Wilson or the Shul office so that appropriate calls or visits can be made.



*This week's Clayhall Kehilla is kindly sponsored by  
Mandy & Daniel Preston in celebration of the birth of their daughter*

## ***Children's & Youth Service***

Combined:

10.30 am - 11.30 am

## ***Weekday Services***

Shacharis: Monday to Friday, 7.00 am. Sunday @ 8.15 am.

Shacharis Rosh Chodesh: 6.45 am (Sunday RC, 8.00 am).

Minchah: 1.45 pm, Monday to Thursday.

Minchah & Ma'ariv: 7.30 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Sunday breakfasts: 11th November.

## ***Special Event***

We are delighted and privileged to welcome **Gila Manolson** to Clayhall on Shabbos 17 November. Gila is a popular international lecturer and acclaimed author of 'The Magic Touch.' She lives with her husband in Jerusalem with her seven children. She will be speaking at a delightful community Seudah at 3.30 pm on the above date. A fuller biography and details will be sent out in the mailing.

## ***CCY Countdown...hours to go***

Today from 3.30 pm until 5.00 pm, Clayhall Shul launches **CCY** with 'no xcse 2 b bord on a Shbs aftrn any mr' Join the gang for indoor cricket, table tennis, football, basketball, nosh and a chat at the new CCY. If you are aged between 6 and 16 years, then this is for you! Bring your friends regardless whether their parents are members of Clayhall Shul or not. Other great events planned include a tour of Wembley Stadium on Thursday 21 February 2008 (half-term), the unique and fun London Duck Tours on Sunday 29 June 2008 and an incredible Activity Day at Gilwell Park Scout Camp on Sunday 7 September 2008. Dates subject to alteration.

## ***Israel@60***

The **Israel Expo and Israel Property Exhibition** takes place at Wembley on Sunday 11 November 2007. The day begins at 10.30 am and ends at 6 pm. Stalls include Gifts, Property, Travel to Israel, Art Exhibition, Jewellery, Aliyah Opportunities, Tax/Investment Advisors, Food & Wine Tasting and a Falafel Stand. There will be live entertainment and children's activities. For more information, please call the Zionist Federation on 020 8343 9756 or email the ZF on [office@zionist.org.uk](mailto:office@zionist.org.uk)

## ***NEROS Quiz***

The Inter-Synagogue **NEROS** quiz takes place later this year on **Sunday 11th November** at Newbury Park Shul. We need three willing and able team members to tackle four gruelling rounds of Jewish Calendar, Israel, Jewish History and General Knowledge. If you are interested, please phone Robin Abrahams on **8220 6779** for a selection test!

## *Contemporary Issues Series*

Rabbi Wilson is launching a 4-part round of talks and debate about a variety of controversial but interesting topics. These will be held in different homes and the venues and times will be announced nearer the time. It should certainly produce some lively conversation!

*Tuesday 6th November*

**Keeping it in the Family - The Ethics of Cloning**

*Tuesday 20th November*

**Mrs Chairman - Women on Synagogue Boards**

*Tuesday 4th December*

**Copyright: Intellectual Property in Jewish Law**

*Tuesday 18th December*

**Why Jews don't celebrate Xmas**

***Don't forget to put your clocks back one hour tonight. Winter is fast approaching***

### ***Functions News***

On Sunday 16th December, the Ladies Guild are holding their annual dinner open to everyone. The guest speaker is **Malcolm Singer**, Director at the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music. He is a particularly talented and erudite speaker. Tickets are £17.50 per person and they will be on sale shortly. A brochure is also being produced for this. There will be a bingo evening in March with details to follow.

### ***Crash Course Hebrew Reading dates***

Rabbi Wilson is running another highly-rated six-week Hebrew reading crash course on Wednesday evenings on the dates below. You really can learn to read Hebrew in just 6 weeks. The course costs just £15.

14<sup>th</sup> November

21<sup>st</sup> November

28<sup>th</sup> November

5<sup>th</sup> December (1<sup>st</sup> night Chanukah)

12<sup>th</sup> December (8<sup>th</sup> night Chanukah)

19<sup>th</sup> December

### ***Clayhall Circus comes to Town!***

Following the success of last year's Chanukah Treasure Hunt and Supper, another treat is in store for this year. On **Sunday 9 December**, join us for a family afternoon of Circus Skills, and a shwarma/hot dog/falafel supper party followed by a medley of doughnuts. Just £6 per adult and £4 for those under 12 years, this is a **MUST** event for all the family. More details will be with you in next week's Shul mailing but put the date in your diary straight away.

## *A Sedra Thought*

### *“And it happened after these things that G-d tested Avraham” (Vayera 22:1)*

There are many views on the motive and the meaning of the binding of Yitzchak which represented a severe test for Avraham. *Rambam* is the first who strongly emphasises that the idea of a test is not that G-d wants to test and try man in order to discover what He had not known previously. It should be realised that every time the Torah speaks of a test, this test has no other object or goal than to have men learn what they must do or believe. The binding of Isaac comprises two great fundamental ideas in Judaism. The first is to teach us how far we must go in our love and fear of G-d. Avraham was ordered to do something which could not be compared with any sacrifice, whether of money or even of life; it was the most extraordinary thing that could have happened in the world, one of those things which one would think human nature not capable of accepting. Imagine a childless man, driven by an extreme desire to have children, possessing great fortune and highly esteemed, longing that his race become a nation; if he has a son, after despairing so long of ever having one, what love, what passion he will have for this son! Nevertheless, fearing G-d and wishing to obey His command, Avraham puts this cherished son in the background. He renounces all he has hoped for from his son and consents to sacrifice him after a few days' journey. If our father Avraham hurried to sacrifice Yitzchak, it was not out of fear that G-d would kill him, but solely because it is the duty of mortals to love and fear G-d without the slightest hope for reward. A second idea is that the prophets must take whatever is revealed to them by G-d as reality. We are told that everything that the prophet sees in his prophetic vision is real and true and certain for him, that he doubts none of it and that he considers it as real as anything perceived by his senses or intellect. The proof is that Avraham hurried to sacrifice the son he loved even though the command to do so came to him in a dream or vision. But had the prophetic dream been obscure for the prophets, had there remained any doubt or uncertainty regarding what they had perceived in a prophetic vision, they would not have been so eager to carry out what was repugnant to human nature and if Avraham had doubts, he would not have consented.

#### ***Clayhall United Synagogue***

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