



קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 24 November 2007/ 15 Kislev 5768

Service Times

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	3.30 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	4.53 pm
Shabbos next week	3.41 pm

With just ten days until Chanukah, we would like to remind our members and families about the Clayhall Chanukah Circus afternoon being held here on **Sunday 9 December**. It promises to be a very entertaining few hours and more details are inside the *Clayhall Kehilla*. Please return your application forms in the next few days to book your place(s).

CCY (Clayhall Children and Youth) is meeting for the second time next **Shabbos 1 December** and there are many other events and activities planned for the future. Again, see inside. Our annual Melava Malkah is planned for Motsei Shabbos **9 February 2008**. Please keep this date free as Clayhall's Melava Malkah is always a very popular and heavily subscribed event. The guest speaker's identity is a closely guarded secret!

Torah Reading

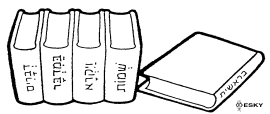
Leyning: Vayishlach
Hertz p 122 , Soncino p 195

Adam Finegold

Haftarah:
Hertz p 135, Soncino p 220

Adam Finegold

All varieties of M & M's listed in The Really Jewish Food Guide 2008 are now **Not Kosher**: M & M's Choco, M & M's Crispy & M & M's Peanut.



*This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by
Ida Lee in loving memory of her brother Rafuel Baruch*

Children's & Youth Service: 10.30 am - 11.30 am (alternate weeks)

Weekday Services

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

Shacharis Rosh Chodesh: 6.45 am Monday to Friday.

Shacharis Rosh Chodesh: 8.00 am Sundays.

Minchah: 1.45 pm, Monday to Thursday.

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

Sunday breakfasts: 16 December, 13 January & 10 February.

Ladies Guild meeting

The next meeting of the Ladies Guild takes place on Wednesday 28th November at the home of Karen Wise, address from the office. The meeting begins at 8.15 pm and all ladies are cordially invited.

If you would like more information about the Guild or would like to help in any way, please contact either Karen Wise or Ruth Abrahams through the Shul office.

CCY News

CCY (Clayhall Children and Youth) is meeting for the 2nd time on **Shabbos 1st December** from 3.30 pm until 5.00 pm. So don't be bored on Shabbos afternoon. Come and meet your friends at Clayhall Shul for parachute games, team games, sport, a chat, nosh and more! Let's hope we can build on the **17** who attended the first CCY. Details about the Chanukah competition and half-term tour of Wembley Stadium will be sent out next week. Future events include a birthday Kiddush on **5th January** for all primary school children celebrating birthdays in January, a Pizza & DVD evening for Years 5 to 12, and a Tu Bishvat activity afternoon for nursery to Year 4.

Lecture Series

The third talk in the series of four contemporary lectures by Rabbi Wilson takes place on Tuesday 4 December at the home of Anne & Mike Yeshin, address from the office. The Rabbi's title is "**Copyright: Intellectual Property in Jewish Law.**" The final talk of the series takes place on Tuesday 18 December at the home of Melanie & Andrew Alicoon, address from the office. What a topical subject - "**Why Jews don't celebrate Xmas!**" Both talks begin at 8.30 pm and refreshments will be served later. The Shul is very grateful to those families who are hosting the series.

Volunteers Required

Do you have some spare time? **Ilford Jewish Primary School** is looking for volunteers to help in the Jewish Studies department with Hebrew reading and other general tasks. Please phone Gina Myers or Deborah Harris at the school on 8551 4294.

Free the Three

"After 114 days in captivity in Gaza, Alan Johnston was finally set free on 3 July 2007. It must have been a moment of indescribable joy for his family and friends. In fact, for any of us who care about human rights, it was a great day. Others remain in this perilous situation, including three taken hostage last summer. **Gilad Shalit, Ehud Goldwasser and Eidad Regev** were all kidnapped from inside their own country, Israel. So as we all spoke out on Alan Johnston's behalf, now we must speak out on theirs. In fact, on behalf of anyone held in inhuman conditions. It's time to end the ordeal endured by all hostages and their families and ensure that basic human justice is done." (wording taken from the website) Log on to www.freethethree.co.uk to sign the petition urging the Government to enforce UN Resolution 1701 (*Hizbollah* are violating international law and any decent standard of human conduct) and learn more about the campaign. It will only take a few minutes of your time. This is supported by the United Synagogue.

*We will be holding a
CST Shabbos with a
special Kiddush on
15th December*

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.

The Name Chanukah

One of the most direct explanations of the name Chanukah is that it is related to the Dedication (Chanukah) of the Altar. The name Chanukah derives from the consecration of the Altar, for the Altar had been destroyed and the Hasmoneans rebuilt it. We learn in *Avodah Zorah 52b* that the Hasmoneans removed and stored away the Altar-stones which the Greeks had polluted with idolatry, and had to build a new Altar. That is why the festival is called 'Dedication.'

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. Full details have been sent to you in the recent Shul mailing so don't forget to return your forms.

True Wealth: A Life Lesson by Adam Lieberman

Yaacov saw his brother Esav for the first time after many years of hiding from him. During their childhood, Esav was angry at Yaacov because he thought that Yaacov had stolen his birthright. Yaacov now wanted to give Esav some of his flocks as a peace offering, but Esav declined, saying: "*I have plenty ... let what you have remain yours.*" But Yaacov said, "*...I have everything.*" There is a world of difference between what Esav meant when he said he has "*plenty*" and Yaacov declaring that he has "*everything*". Esav, a selfish person caring only about his materialistic possessions, proclaimed that "*I have plenty*" because "*plenty*" is quantitative. His material possessions are what he saw as his net worth. If he would ever lose a majority of his possessions, then he would be plenty no more. Yaacov, however, who had his entire family with him, proudly declared, "*I have everything.*" Our most valuable and prized possessions will always be what money can never buy - our lives, our health, our families. For thousands of years, the wisest men have been preaching this truism. But why do we fail to embrace it? In interviews with elderly people who look back on a life gone by, they dejectedly speak about how they should have spent more time with their families, taken better care of themselves, and certainly focused less on their careers. In fact, there isn't a headstone that could be found on a single grave site that states that the one buried achieved great success in business, property, or the arts. Rather, it proclaims the virtues that the deceased possessed as a grandparent, parent, sibling or spouse. And this is the world's most ironic paradox. While society, the media, and the world-at-large shower accolades and praise on those who achieve business or personal success, when you pass away this isn't at all how your life is judged - by man or by G-d. Monetary and career success are wonderful things. We're all designed for greatness and should strive to succeed and grow in many aspects of our lives. But it's the priceless things in our lives that we tend to take so much for granted and never fully appreciate until we, G-d forbid, no longer have them or are faced with a fear of losing them. This is why Yaacov knew he had *everything*. Is there not a dying wealthy person who would without hesitation give his entire fortune to live another year? How about for just another week? Would you ever want to switch places with him? Of course not. Yet, billions of people who still have so much physical life in them choose to walk the earth being unhappy, discontented, and miserable. The reason for this is that they're usually focused on only the same things that Esav was. Their idea of wealth is exactly what the media have said that it should be. So instead of appreciating and loving their tremendous and endless amount of true wealth that constantly surrounds them, they instead choose to dwell on missed and lost opportunities, the things they don't have, and all of the possessions they long for. If you think about "what you have" in the same terms as Esav, then you are certain to have a life filled with frustration, disappointment, and unhappiness. But if you understand the life-changing statement of what Yaacov said and you think about all of the irreplaceable and priceless things you have in your life right now, then you now will wake up each and every morning confidently knowing that you really do have *everything*.

Clayhall United Synagogue

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