



# קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

*Shabbos 8 December 2007/ 28 Kislev 5768*

## *Service Times (IJPS Shabbaton/Shabbos Mevarachim)*

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	3.30 pm
Ma'ariv & Shabbos ends	4.46 pm
Shabbos next week	3.36 pm

We are delighted to be hosting the **Ilford Jewish Primary School** Shabbaton. Once again, Years 2, 3 and 4 have combined and 40 children are joining us for a day of eating and fun! After their Children's Service, they will come into the main Service for *Adon Olam* - perhaps with a song or two. Then the Kehilla is providing a Chanukah Kiddush in the school's honour. The children will enjoy a buffet lunch with zemiros and bensching. After more activities, we will join together for Seudah Shilishis, something our regulars look forward to each year.

Rabbi & Rebbetzen Wilson, the Honorary Officers and the Board of Management wish the community a lichtiger and freilechen Chanukah. Ignore the diet and cholesterol levels; hit those yummy jam doughnuts hard!

## *Torah Reading*

Sedrah Synopsis:

Leyning: Mikeitz

Hertz p 155, Soncino p 252

Haftorah:

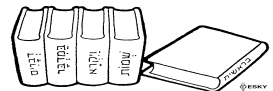
Hertz p 987, Soncino p 857

We leyn the Maftir today from a second Sefer Torah. Page numbers will be given out.

*Joshua Harris*

*Rabbi Nissan Wilson*

*Rabbi Nissan Wilson*



*This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by Deborah Harris in honour of the pupils of Ilford Jewish Primary School*

**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.

### ***The Precious Mitzvah***

The mitzvah of the Chanukah light is y precious. One must be very scrupulous about it in order to popularise the miracle and to offer additional praise and thanksgiving to G-d for the wonders that He performed on our behalf. Even if one has no food to eat except what he receives from charity , he should beg - or sell his clothing - to buy oil and lamps, and light them.  
*(Rambam Hilchos Chanukah 4:12)*

### ***CCY News***

CCY (Clayhall Children and Youth) met for the 2nd time last Shabbos. It was another successful week with parachute games, team games, sport, a chat, nosh and more! Despite several young people were unable to attend, there were 14 present who all enjoyed a fun-packed afternoon. The closing date for the half-term tour of Wembley Stadium on 20th February is this Monday 10th December. Please make sure that your forms are returned tomorrow. 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.

### ***Lecture Series***

The fourth talk in this intriguing series of four contemporary lectures by Rabbi Wilson takes place on Tuesday 18th December at the home of Melanie & Andrew Alicoon, venue from office. What a topical subject - **"Why Jews don't celebrate Xmas!"**

It begins at 8.30 pm and refreshments will be served later. Rumours that mince pies and sausage rolls will be served by chez Alicoon are completely unfounded. The Shul is very grateful to those families who have hosted the series - family Jay, Segall, Yeshin and Alicoon.

### ***Michelle Mervish***

The Rabbi, Honorary Officers and Board of Management wish Mazel Tov to Michelle on being re-elected as Chair of the Association of United Synagogue Administrators for a second year. This reflects well on both Michelle and Clayhall Shul. Well done!

## *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](http://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.

*Shacharis during Chanukah will start 15 minutes earlier than normal at 6.45 am*

### *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 these are available from Karen Wise and Jackie Shafier. 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.'

## *Service Times*

The **Fast of Teves** falls on Wednesday 19th December and we shall be davening slightly earlier at 6.45 am in the morning. Over the holiday period, Shacharis will commence at:

Sunday 23rd December: 8.15 am  
Monday 24th December: 7.00 am  
Tuesday 25th December: 8.30 am  
Wednesday 26th December: 8.30 pm  
Tuesday 1st January: 8.30 am

## ***Doing Without Being Told: A Life lesson by Adam Lieberman***

"Pharaoh had two dreams that disturbed him greatly. The first dream was of seven thin and ugly cows who were eating seven large, healthy cows. The second was of seven thin, wilted ears of grain swallowing up seven healthy and full ears of grain. Pharaoh was desperate to find someone to interpret these dreams, but he couldn't find anyone. Pharaoh was told that Yosef was successful in analyzing dreams, so he had him summoned. Yosef told Pharaoh that his dreams meant that Egypt was going to have seven years of great abundance, which would then be immediately followed by seven years of famine. After Yosef interpreted these dreams for Pharaoh, he then offered some unsolicited advice and said: *"Now let Pharaoh seek out a discerning and wise man and set him over the land of Egypt."* (Bereshis 41:33) The only thing Pharaoh asked Yosef to do was to interpret his dreams for him. And then, without ever being asked, Yosef went on to advise Pharaoh on just how to deal with the impending situation. Most people standing before a king would only do what he or she was told, and nothing more. It is a unique person who identifies a problem and who also has the courage to actually come up with a solution and verbalize it. There's so much to do, fix, and change in the world and there certainly isn't a shortage of people who can point out all of the problems that exist. They're only too excited to share their negative thoughts with anyone who'll listen. But how many of these people will just as eagerly and readily offer up solutions? Very few. The tendency to be problem-oriented and not solution-oriented usually parallels our own lives. It's not that we proactively choose to focus on negative things (although a lot of people do just that), but negativity and problems are just the default thoughts for our brain. Our minds can be likened to a garden - whatever seed you plant in a garden, that seed will grow. But if you don't plant anything in the garden, then weeds grow in abundance. Our minds work the same way. Absent of our thinking of productive thoughts, our minds will naturally drift toward something negative and unproductive. People who are moving and growing tend to have many positive and productive thoughts while those who are stuck and not moving will usually focus only on negative thoughts. There's a surefire way to instantly rid yourself of negative, unproductive, and unhealthy thoughts. Since our brain is capable of having only one thought at a time, focus on a positive future, be action-minded, and work each day toward meaningful objectives. We live in a world where people love to point out all the things that are wrong. Be that rare person who offers up concrete answers and will even commit to being a part of the solution. This can easily be achieved once you plant productive seeds in your mind which are then certain to yield a large and full crop of productive and happy thoughts. And this will make you want to go out there and change the world."

**Adam Lieberman** is a business consultant and who advises executives and companies across a spectrum of industries. He also runs a non-profit foundation which helps Jews of all backgrounds to see the beauty and relevance of their heritage. The insights he receives from the weekly Torah portion enable him to live a happy, meaningful, and balanced life. He lives in New Jersey with his wife.

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