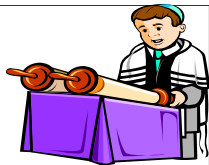




קליהל קהילה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 6 December 2008/9 Kislev 5769

Service Times (Arron Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah)

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	3.30 pm
Shabbos ends	4.46 pm
Shabbos next week	3.36 pm

We wish a very hearty Mazel Tov to **Arron Goldberg** on the wonderful occasion of his Bar Mitzvah today. Arron will be leyning the first and last parts of the sedrah as well as singing the Haftorah. Samantha & Ian together with their family have great pleasure in inviting the community to a Kiddush after the service in celebration of their simchah.

This is the second week of our new-look **Children's Service** and we hope that it blossoms in the weeks and months ahead. It will initially run on alternative weeks. Already, the service has its own *Facebook* group!

Don't forget to return your application forms for '**Chanukah at the Aviv**' which takes place on Tuesday 23 December. There is more information inside your *Clayhall Kehilla*.

Torah Reading

Sedra Synopsis:

Leyning: Vayetzei

Hertz p 106, Soncino p 164

Haftorah:

Hertz p 118, Soncino p 188

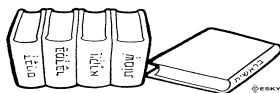
Minchah this afternoon will begin promptly at 3.30 pm followed by Seudah

Arron Goldberg

Arron Goldberg &

Rabbi Nissan Wilson

Arron Goldberg



This week's Clayhall Kehilla is kindly sponsored by Samantha, Ian, Craig and Ethan Goldberg in celebration of Arron's Bar Mitzvah

Children's Service: 10.30 am - 11.15 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.

Ma'ariv: 7.30 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Sunday breakfasts: 28 December & 25 January.

Hebrew Reading Course

The 6-week **Hebrew Reading Crash Course** is an excellent method, tried and tested, that will dramatically improve your Hebrew reading skills.

Regardless of whether you are a new starter or you just want to refine your current skills, this is the course for you. Several people expressed an interest in a **Sunday morning course** rather than the usual Wednesday evenings.

Rabbi Wilson wants to hear from anyone who is seriously interested to learn on a Sunday morning but, equally, please let him know if you would prefer a Wednesday evening. If the demand is great enough, two courses will be run simultaneously. Often, the hardest step to take is the first one. After that, it's easy. So take the plunge and book your name!

Mums & Daughters Baking Bonanza

On Monday 22 December, girls aged 9-14 years and their mums are warmly welcomed to the home of Rebbetsen Wilson, address from office from 10.30 am to 12.00 pm. Learn how to make a variety of Chanukah delicacies and take home what you make! The cost is just £2 per participant. Places are limited to the size of the kitchen and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Application forms are being sent out this Monday and they should be returned to the Shul office by Wednesday 17 December.

Clayhall Administrator

We are delighted to welcome **Deana Green** as Clayhall's new Administrator. Deana began work last Monday. We wish her every success as successor to Michelle. Please allow her to get used to the systems and practices of the United Synagogue, and to offer her every encouragement and support over the next few weeks.

Magazine Articles

Articles, reports, topical stories and pearls of wisdom are all required for the Pesach edition of 'Shalom' magazine. Your written pieces must be sent to either the Editorial Board or the Shul office by mid-January 2009 to guarantee inclusion. So laptops open...start typing!

Family Chanukah Party: Reception to Year Six

*Please join our family for a
Chanukah Party
on Sunday 21 December
from 3.30 pm to 5.45 pm
Address from the office*

*We hope to see you there for an
afternoon of fun, games, nosh and supper!*

*We would be delighted if your parents and siblings would join
us for candle lighting and doughnuts at 4.45 pm.*

from

Rabbi and Rebbetsen Wilson

*Invitations are being sent out to the community next week.
RSVP: 17 December to the Wilson family on 020 8551 7359*

**You can sponsor this
newsheet for just £15 to
celebrate a Simchah,
commemorate a
Yahrzeit, or for no
reason at all!**

Today in Jewish History: 9 Kislev

In 1940, a boatload of 1600 Jewish immigrants fleeing Hitler's ovens was denied entry into the port of Haifa; the British deported them to the island of Mauritius. At the time, the British had acceded to Arab demands and restricted Jewish immigration into Palestine. The urgent plight of European Jewry generated an "illegal" immigration movement, but the British were vigilant in denying entry. Some ships, such as the Struma, sunk and their hundreds of passengers killed.

Kashrus Update

The Kashrus Division of the London Beis Din lists product updates on its excellent website:

www.kosher.org.uk and it is worth checking this every month or so. The Shul tries to send these on to members who have provided an email address. So far there have already been two November updates. You can also order the Really Jewish Food Guide via the website for just £9.95.

Chanukah at the Aviv!

Clayhall is celebrating Chanukah at the **Aviv** restaurant in Edgware (this is, we believe, somewhere over the rainbow in another land) Very shortly, you will receive full details in the Shul mailing. It takes place on **Tuesday 23 December** and everyone is invited. The adult menu is £25 per head and there is a reduced price children's menu. Rabbi Wilson has assured us of a fun-packed evening so book your place(s) on receipt of the form.

Employer-Employee Relations by Rabbi Yehudah Appel

Some years ago, while living in Jerusalem, I had a friend who worked as an official in the Ministry of Education. My friend was **meticulous in his behavior**, following both the letter and the spirit of the law, whether involving religious or secular pursuits. He made it a point, for instance, to record the amount of time he spent each work day for private purposes such as making personal phone calls. At the end of the week, he would tally up the total time he had spent on his personal affairs and make sure to stay late at work **to make up for that "borrowed" time.**

This behavior is, in fact, consistent with Jewish law ("*halacha*"). **The obligations of an employee to his employer** are taken so seriously in halacha that modifications were even made in the prayers: Recognizing that employers would be shortchanged if workers spent too much time praying, the Sages composed an abridged form of "Grace After Meals" for workers. This topic of workers' obligations is alluded to in this week's Torah portion, Vayetzei.

Yaacov flees from his brother Esav, and goes to Padan Aram, where he marries his cousins, Rachel and Leah. Jacob works for their father Lavan, a deceitful person who constantly changes the terms of their work agreement. After 20 years of service to Lavan (and encouraged by G-d in a dream), Jacob decides to return to Canaan. But before leaving, he consults with his wives, and describes how **"with all my might I worked for your father."** Maimonides cites these words of Yaacov as a source for the requirement that workers work a full day - and "labor with all your might."

At the same time, the need for responsible management and the **protection of workers' rights** is also derived from this week's sedrah. When Yaacov does finally decide to return home, he does so stealthily, fearful of what Lavan may do to him. Lavan gives chase and ultimately overtakes Jacob and his family. In the midst of the ensuing confrontation, Yaacov refers to his 20 years as watchman over Lavan's flocks, and bitterly comments, "By the day I was consumed by scorching heat, and at night by the frost, when sleep was snatched from my eyes." Yaacov's comments are seen as a criticism of Lavan - a reflection on the fact that he had been treated unjustly.

Yaacov's words ultimately find their way into **Jewish law which prohibit an employer** from harming his laborers' health, and puts strict guidelines on the degree to which workers can be asked to stay up at night to work. There are actually hundreds of laws in rabbinic literature dealing with labor-management relations. For example, failure to pay a worker his wages on time is an explicit transgression of Torah law.

Through it all, the paramount theme is to ensure that neither party is taken advantage of, and that **respect is maintained for each person** as having been created in the image of G-d.

Rabbi Yehudah Appel is the Education Director of Aish Hatorah in Cleveland.

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