



# קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

*Shabbos 20 December 2008/23 Kislev 5769*

## *Service Times*

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	3.30 pm
Shabbos ends	4.47 pm
Shabbos next week	3.41 pm

We wish a hearty Mazel Tov **Mildred and Mick Carlton** on their 80th and 85th birthdays and the community wishes them both many more years of health and happiness. Mildred and Mick have great pleasure in inviting the Kehilla to a Kiddush after the service in celebration of their Simchah.

Over the holiday period, Thursday and Friday 25th & 26th December, Shacharis will be at the later time of 8.15 am. It's also possible that davening will be earlier the following week depending on people's work commitments. **Please note the important comments inside about the Shacharis Minyan.**

"Chanukah at the Aviv" takes place this coming Tuesday 23 December with over 50 people attending. It promises to be a very lively evening. Bookings are now unfortunately closed.

## *Torah Reading*

Leyning: Vayeshev  
Hertz p 141, Soncino p 229

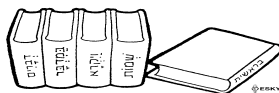
*Rabbi Nissan Wilson*

Haftorah:  
Hertz p 152, Soncino p 248

*Lester Harris*

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

Wishing everyone a Chanukah Sameach!



*This week's Clayhall Kehilla is kindly sponsored by  
Mildred and Mick Carlton in celebration of their special birthdays*

**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 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. Although application forms were sent out last week, there is still some space. If you would like to attend, please let the office know by tomorrow.

### ***Children's Service & Facebook***

The third of our new-style Children's Services takes place today with some davening, games and nosh. The service continues to progress well. Clayhall Shul has its own *Facebook* group and events, news and information will be advertised through this media. If you are already a *Facebook* user, please join the group.

### ***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...and start typing those prosaic articles!

## *Project Chesed*

Project Chesed, the joint initiative of the United Synagogue and the London School of Jewish Studies, is supporting World Jewish Relief in its Chanukah appeal to light up children's lives around the globe. 30 United Synagogue communities, including **Clayhall**, will be running collections for members to donate new or good-as-new toys and baby products including nappies and wipes—items that most children in the UK take for granted.

To launch the campaign, staff at US head office donated £200 worth of toiletries. The initiative, now in its 2nd year, is set to run from Chanukah until mid-January and hopes to brighten the winter months for thousands of Jewish children throughout Eastern Europe. School sixth formers who recently went on a Tribe trip to Poland are acting as ambassadors for the Chanukah collection.

**You can bring your items to the Clayhall Shul office from Monday 29th December onwards** during opening hours only. Please be generous as your contributions will go a long way towards helping Jewish children.

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

### *Shacharis Minyan*

It is becoming very hard to sustain a viable Shacharis daily Minyan. Some mornings, only a handful of men attend while the rest of the time is a constant struggle. Yet, we have a dedicated group, some quite elderly, who are the daily stalwarts. We all share a collective responsibility. If we always leave it to the next person, we negate our responsibility and the mission fails.

### *Today in Jewish History: 23 Kislev*

In 1348, amidst the devastating Black Plague which would eventually kill 25 million Europeans, a government official in Switzerland announced that Jews (under torture) had confessed to the poisoning of wells in the Rhine Valley, as part of an international Jewish conspiracy. The report was readily accepted by nobles who resented the Jews as economic competitors and to whom they were indebted for loans. Thus began a "year of terror" which saw the destruction of most of the Jewish communities in the region, and thousands of Jews burned alive.

In the 2nd century BCE, during the time of the 2nd Temple, the Syrian-Greek ruler Antiochus tried to pull Jews away from Judaism, and assimilate them into Greek culture. He outlawed Jewish observance of circumcision, Shabbat, and Torah study, under penalty of death. Led by Matisyahu, and later his son Judah the Maccabee, the small band of pious Jews led guerrilla warfare against the Syrian-Greeks. Antiochus sent thousands of well-armed troops to crush the rebellion, but after 3 years the Maccabees beat incredible odds and miraculously succeeded in driving the foreigners from their land. The victory was on the scale of Israel defeating the combined super-powers of today.

## ***Respect and Be Respected by Adam Lieberman***

Yaacov had 12 sons, including his son Yosef. One day... "*Yosef dreamt a dream which he told to his brothers, and they hated him.... He said to them ... we were binding sheaves in the middle of the field, when ... my sheaf arose and ... remained standing; then ... your sheaves ... bowed down to my sheaf.*" (Bereishis 37:5-7)

Most of us all have someone that we need to answer to in one way or another. Whether it's a supervisor at work, a teacher in school, or a parent at home, there's usually someone in our life that plays an authoritative role. Sometimes these "bosses" enjoy reminding us constantly of their authority and like to talk down to us. And other times they'll choose to treat us with the utmost respect and kindness.

Interestingly, we all find ourselves in the exact same authoritative position countless times throughout the day. There are many people in our lives over whom - if we choose to - we can exercise an enormous amount of dominance and control. We can treat these people most any way we see fit, usually with little or no consequences. For example, this can happen every time you interact with a waitress, a cashier, or any hired help. Since these people "need" to listen to us, we have the potential to treat them with outright rudeness and disrespect.

The reason why you'll sometimes see people acting this way is that they believe it gives their ego a boost to "boss" someone around. We all have a desire on some level to be in a position of authority in business, politics, or the community. So, in an unconscious effort to fulfill this desire, some people will simply choose to treat others in a manner like *they rule over them and act like their sheaf arose and remained standing*. This is the mistake that Yosef made with his brothers and why they really disliked him. There's a quick test you can take to know whether or not you're acting properly towards others. How do you treat people that you don't have to be nice to? You can instantly learn about a person's self-esteem by observing just how they treat people to whom they don't have to be nice. Sadly, many people will act one way toward their boss and people they want to impress but then become demanding or rude when speaking to some others. Ironically, it's actually a huge boost to your self-esteem when you treat other people - regardless of who they are - with tremendous respect.

This shows that you have a strong self-image and you don't need to knock someone down in order for you to feel taller. In fact, the better you can make others feel, the higher your own self-esteem will soar. It's a law of nature. While you might feel an artificial increase in your self-esteem when others *bow down* to you, the exact opposite is true. So start practicing the real golden rule, and treat everyone you meet like pure gold.

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