

# קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

*Shabbos 10 January 2009/14 Teves 5769*

## **Service Times**

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	3.35 pm
Shabbos ends	5.06 pm
Shabbos next week	4.07 pm

We are delighted to be hosting the **Ilford Jewish Primary School** Shabbaton. Once again, Years 2, 3 and 4 have combined and 35 children are joining us for a day of eating, drinking and fun! After their Children's Service, they will come into the main Service for *Adon Olam*, perhaps with a couple of songs. Then the Kehilla will be providing a Kiddush in the school's honour. The children will enjoy a buffet lunch and, after more activities, we will join together for Seudah Shilishis, something that our 'regulars' look forward to each year.

Inside your *Clayhall Kehilla* are details about the amazing 5-week Hebrew reading crash course starting tomorrow and new **Yahrtzeit** guidelines issued by Rabbi Wilson & the Executive.

## **Torah Reading**

Leyning: Vayechi

Hertz p 180, Soncino p 296

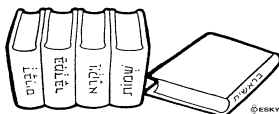
Haftorah:

Hertz p 191, Soncino p 315

**Lester Harris**

**Uri Leibowitz**

*We extend a warm welcome to pupils, parents, teachers and governors of Ilford Jewish Primary School. Enjoy your stay at Clayhall and come back soon!*



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

**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: 25 January, 25 February & 29 March.

### ***Hebrew Reading Course***

Come and join our amazing 5 week,  
Hebrew Reading Course with  
Rabbi Wilson on Sunday mornings.

The course begins on Sunday 11th  
January at 11:15 am in the Board  
Room at RJCC, and will run for  
five consecutive weeks  
(Jan 11, 18, 25 and Feb 1,8)

The cost for the course is £15 and  
includes the course book  
and refreshments.

Remember: Success guaranteed or  
your money back!

### ***Facebook***

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.  
If not, you're missing out on the fastest  
growing social networking and  
communications channel in the world.  
Even Rabbonim use it extensively!

### ***Kashrus Update***

**Meridian Teriyaki Soya Sauce**,  
listed as approved and Parev  
on page 83 of *The Really  
Jewish Food Guide 2008* now  
contains white wine and is Not  
Kosher. Old stock which does  
not list white wine in the  
ingredients declaration is still  
approved kosher Parev. **Nestle  
Smarties** and **Mini Smarties**  
are changing to a new formulation  
and as of January 2009 will no  
longer contain Carminic Acid  
(E120) and are approved  
kosher Dairy. Please make sure  
to check the ingredients  
declaration before purchase  
as old stock still containing  
carminic acid is Not Kosher.

### ***Shacharis Minyan***

Over the last few weeks, it has  
been increasingly difficult to  
maintain a viable Shacharis  
Minyan every morning. Thanks  
in particular are due to **Leslie  
Linder** for his tireless efforts. We  
need more help as the task is  
getting much harder. Lifts can  
be given to the underground  
station after the service.

## ***Yahrtzeits & Call-ups New Policy***

Following a full consultation, the **Honorary Officers** and **Rabbi Wilson** have formulated a policy on call-ups for Yahrtzeits. Unfortunately, the number of Yahrtzeit related call-ups has made it difficult to spread the aliyos to a wider range of members. The Wardens are conscious of the need to honour all regular worshipers and occasional guests with a 'speaking part'.

Rabbi Wilson has confirmed that the Halachic right to a call-up applies only to one who has Yahrtzeit for one of the close relatives for whom one would sit shiva (parent, child, spouse or sibling). There is no basis according to Halacha to call up a person who has Yahrtzeit for a grandparent or uncle, or for a spouse's parent or relative. Furthermore the right to a call-up is only on the actual day of the Yahrtzeit.

As such, a call-up will be guaranteed to anyone who has Yahrtzeit on the actual Shabbos day, while efforts will also be made within reason to give an honour to people who have a Yahrtzeit at any point in the following week for any one of the close relatives mentioned above.

Members should be aware that there are often available slots for aliyos at the Shabbos Minchah service and also on Monday and Thursday mornings when the Torah is read. Please feel free to speak to the Wardens regarding call-ups, and we will try to accommodate requests where possible.

Please support our Wardens on this approach to call-ups, and be aware that our aim is to make sure that everybody has an opportunity to be called up to the Torah.

### ***Israel Rally***

The Board of Deputies & the Jewish Leadership Council have organised a Rally in support of

**"Peace for the People of Israel and Gaza"**

at Trafalgar Square tomorrow 11 January from 11.00am until 12 noon.

Flags and placards will be provided.

For further information, please phone 020 7543 5428 [solidarity@bod.org.uk](mailto:solidarity@bod.org.uk)

### ***Children's Service***

Our next Children's service takes place next Shabbos 17 January. Taken by **Naomi Harris** for children aged 3-10 years, the morning is a fun mix of davening, games, stories, songs and plenty of nosh., See you at 10.30 am!

### ***Television Coverage: Israel/Gaza***

If you are concerned about biased coverage of the current situation in Israel, contact the BBC on 03700 100 222. **HonestReporting**, with 140,000 members, is the largest organization fighting media bias in the Middle East conflict. In 2006, HonestReporting launched Media Central, a Jerusalem centre providing support services for foreign journalists in Israel and the region Their excellent website is well worth visiting: [www.honestreporting.com](http://www.honestreporting.com) as it is packed full of good articles. It also tells you how to make media complaints.

## ***Respect for the Dead by Rabbi Yehuda Appel (www.aish.com)***

It has been said that one can measure how civilized a culture is **by the way its dead are treated**. One rabbi I know has found a novel way to give his congregants a greater appreciation of Jewish tradition: He takes them on a **tour of a secular funeral home**, followed by a visit to a Jewish funeral home, where the body is cared for by the "*Chevra Kadisha*," the Jewish burial society. On the first stop, among many other troubling things, the congregants witness undertakers working with a cadaver as rock music blares in the background. The visit with the *Chevra Kadisha* is quite different. There it is explained how, according to Jewish law, **the body is gently cleansed** as a preparation for burial. Prayers are recited, and a "*shomer*" (guardian) stays with the deceased throughout the process. The difference between the two funeral homes is striking and has a marked effect on the congregants' view of Judaism.

A major theme in this week's Torah portion, Vayechi, concerns the funeral plans Jacob made for himself before his death. Yaacov was the first Jew to arrange to have his **body brought from the Diaspora to Israel for burial** - a custom which has been repeated by thousands of his descendants.

Worried that his body will be worshipped by the Egyptians if he is buried by the Nile, and very much wanting to be laid to rest next to the graves of his wife and ancestors, Yaacov implores his son Yosef to see to it that he is buried in Chevron. Yosef agrees, and when the time comes that Yaacov dies, Yosef leads a great procession accompanying his father's body from Egypt to Israel.

Jewish tradition places great importance on the "*Levaya*," **the act of accompanying the dead body to the grave**. Rashi presents an interesting rationale for this practice, declaring it beyond simply showing respect for the deceased. Rashi writes that inasmuch as one who is kind to the poor is looked upon as being a partner with the Al-mighty, it follows that someone who shows kindness to the dead (who are "poorer" than any living person), will certainly have gained this relationship with G-d.

At Yaacov's funeral, the eulogy given was described as being "**great and heavy**." The commentaries explain that the eulogy "weighed heavy" on the hearts of the mourners. In fact, Judaism says the essential purpose of a eulogy is to move people to a **greater appreciation of the deceased**, and deepen their recognition for what they once had - and have now lost.

"*Shiva*," **the seven-day period of mourning** following a relative's burial, was instituted at this time by Yaacov's family. Common sense (and modern psychology) supports this notion of devoting seven days to deep mourning after a great personal loss. Surprisingly, however, Jewish tradition does not see the mourners as the sole beneficiaries of the *Shiva* period. Instead, the Talmud explains how the **soul of the deceased hovers over the body for seven days**, and the specter of people mourning over the body that the soul formerly inhabited helps to ease the soul's pain. Despite all the great changes that have occurred in the world since the time of Yaacov, Jewish mourning practices have remained remarkably consistent. **May we all live and be well.**

***Clayhall United Synagogue***

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