



# קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

*Shabbos 25 April 2009/ 1 Iyar 5769*

## *Service Times (Rosh Chodesh Iyar)*

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah	7.35 pm
Shabbos ends	9.06 pm
Shabbos next week	7.30pm

We wish a hearty Mazel Tov to **Deborah Lyndon** and **Jonathan Epstein** and their respective families on the wonderful occasion of their engagement. **Ruth & Mervyn Lyndon** have great pleasure in inviting the Kehilla to a Kiddush after the service in celebration of their simchah.

Tomorrow morning after Shacharis, we will have our monthly **smoked salmon and beigel breakfast** replete with other mouth-watering delicacies. This will be followed by the usual **Dads n'Lads 5-a-side football**. Participants are expected to stagger home at about 10.30 am. Rumours of a second and even bigger 5-a-side football event & BBQ in July are apparently true. More details will be released over the coming weeks.

## *Torah Reading*

Leyning: Tazria-Metzora

Hertz p 460, Soncino p 674

Maftir: Bamidbar 28:9-15 H695, S944

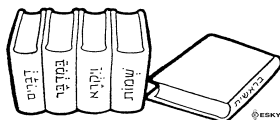
Haftorah:

Hertz p 944, Soncino p 1188

*Rabbi Nissan Wilson*

*Hermi Rothman*

*Please join the Clayhall Shul Facebook group so that you can receive regular updates and invitations to Shul events.*



*The Clayhall Kehilla is kindly sponsored by Ruth, Mervyn and Eleanor Lyndon in celebration of Deborah & Jonathan's engagement*

**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.

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

Sunday breakfasts: 26th April, 25th May, 28th June & 2nd August

### ***Genesis...Something New***

The Shul's new fund raising committee kicks off with its inaugural function on **Sunday 17 May**. This is a Chicago Bridge and Kalooki evening. Tickets at just £6 each are available from Philip Shamplina, Vivienne Agassi or the shul office. Light refreshments will be served. Don't delay in booking. Weather permitting, a Garden Party is planned for 21 June and further information will be provided soon. On **Sunday 18 October**, Genesis presents a Grand Quiz Supper Evening with the Number One quiz inquisitor, Michael Finger. Put this date in your diary!

### ***Tikun Leil Shavuos***

One of our annual highlights is the Tikun Leil Shavuos. Single malts, lashings of cheesecake, and some great home-grown, inspiring words of Torah provide the perfect blend. We are delighted that Freda & Leslie Pollock are again hosting the event. It starts on **Thursday 28 May** at 11.45 pm until about 3.30 am. We will then daven Shacharis around 4.00 am. For those not too nocturnal, the Shavuos morning service will be repeated at 9.00 am in Shul!

### ***Shul Calendar 5770***

Your insertions are needed for the new Shul calendar. Birthdays, anniversaries, yahrtzeits can be included. This year, Bar and Bas mitzvah dates can be highlighted. Forms were recently sent out but there are spare ones in the office. These should either be returned to **Ruth Lyndon** directly or given to Deana in the office. If you have had a simchah since 1 March or will be celebrating one before 15 July, let **Cynthia Simmons** have a photograph for the Rosh Hashanah edition of *Shalom*. Contact her on 8550 8018.

### ***Clayhall Shabbaton***

Our annual Clayhall Community Shabbaton will take place on Shabbos 23 May. There will be an exciting programme for all ages, including interactive sessions with guest speaker **Rabbi Yehudah Lieberman**. Full details and booking forms will be sent out in the next few days. Don't miss this early summer highlight event. We will also be holding our annual Pimms & ice-cream Kiddush sometime in July.

## ***NEROS Inter-Shul Quiz***

This keenly-fought contest was once won by Clayhall Shul in a bygone age. Former glories need to be restored to their rightful place. We are still looking for two people to join the team of three. Failure to take part may affect our place in the local elite. Relegation is unthinkable and a points deduction would be somewhat embarrassing. So if you have a craving for displaying your talent in public, this is the event for you.

It takes place on **Sunday 10 May** at Ilford Federation Shul, Coventry Road at 2.30 pm. The four topics you need to revise are:

- \* Biblical Jewish history
- \* Jewish general knowledge
- \* the Hebrew calendar
- \* the Book of Ruth

So clearly no pressure then! Rabbonim and their families are not allowed to compete which is a shame as these are core foundation subjects for all aspiring Jewish clerics. Men and women are welcome to join the team. Previous knowledge would be a considerable advantage but not essential. If nothing else, you will get a cup of tea and a bun. Whether we manage to bring the solid silver type of cup home is...hanging in the balance. So get into training and give **Robin Abrahams** your name.

### ***Rosh Chodesh***

Today is Shabbos Rosh Chodesh, the first day of Iyar. We take out two Sifrei Torah and read the Maftir from the sedra of Pinchas. Page numbers are on the front of the newsheet. During Shacharis, we insert Ya'aleh Ve'yavo into the Amidah and we recite 'half' Hallel. In the Musaf Amidah, we say 'Ato Yatzarto' in place of the regular body of the prayer. Page numbers will be announced at key points in the service.

### ***Rosh Chodesh Group***

*A hands-on Challa baking demonstration* will be the practical subject of the next Rosh Chodesh meeting. Led by Rebbetsen Wilson, this takes place on **Tuesday 5th May** at 8.30 pm at 19 Lakeside Avenue.

### ***Clayhall AGM 2009***

The Clayhall Shul AGM takes place here on **Tuesday 19 May** at 8 pm. Voting if applicable begins from 6 pm to 8 pm. All nominations have now closed and the candidate lists will be sent to members in due course. The AGM is a real opportunity to voice your comments and opinions on Shul matters. The Honorary Officers want to encourage a healthy debate and it is hoped that members will respond appropriately. The AGM will, as always, be preceded by a short DVD from the Community Security Trust.

## *The Omer Count (based on Artscroll Mesorah Series)*

As the Sages teach, the Egypt ordeal had cast the Jews down to the 49th degree of spiritual contamination. Just a bit more and they would have fallen to the 50th and lowest level, the depth from which it would have been impossible to extricate themselves. Beginning with the 2nd day of Pesach - the day after they left Egyptian domination - they counted each passing day in anticipation of the rendezvous at Sinai. Day by day they rose from their stained level to the corresponding degree of holiness. Once again they were ready for the prophecy at Sinai. This time it was not an unearned gift, but a deserved prize.

In the words of **Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto**:

"The matter of Sefiras HaOmer (ie., the counting of the Omer, the 49 days from Pesach to Shavuot) is as follows: 50 gates of understanding were created in the world, and Moshe's degree of comprehension included 49 gates, but he could not comprehend the 50th gate, which is the ultimate (level) of understanding.

Those (49 levels are the) 49 days of the counting of the Omer, and the Torah was given on the 50th day. Just as there are 49 gates of understanding and holiness, so there are 49 gates of spiritual contamination for G-d *has made one corresponding to the other* (*Koheles 7:14*) This means that Hashem makes influences for good and evil to balance one another, so that man will have the challenge of exercising his free will - the Good Inclination and the Evil Inclination, the one with its purity and the other with its contamination, in conflicting aspects. When Israel was in Egypt, they were sunk and soiled in 49 gates of contamination, and they had to escape from them. G-d wished to extricate Israel from them and to subjugate those 49 gates of contamination. But He did so step by step, by illuminating a gate of holiness opposite its corresponding gate of contamination, one on each of the days from after the first day of Pesach until Shavuot. This perfection is aroused anew every year by means of counting the 49 days of the Omer between Pesach, the day of liberation, until Shavuot, the day the Torah is given, which is the illumination of the 50th gate of understanding and holiness upon Israel."

**Rabbi Wilson** begins his inspiring and popular summer series of Shabbos Shiurim on **Shabbos 9th May**.

Each Shiur starts 45 minutes before Shabbos Minchah.

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