

שבת

# קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

*Shabbos 22 August 2009/ 2 Ellul 5769*

## *Service Times*

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

Incredibly, it's now **Ellul** and **Rosh Hashanah** is just 4 weeks away. Each morning after Shacharis we blow the Shofar paralleling the Jewish people's own Shofar blowing on each of the 40 days that Moshe spent during his final time on Mount Sinai between 1 Ellul and 10 Tishri (Yom Kippur).

Please don't forget to return the **Yomim Noraim** seating forms to the Shul office as soon as possible together with the memorial form. We are still in talks with Jewish Care regarding the possible use of the blue chairs in the Hall Service and there should be news on this shortly. Inside the Clayhall Kehilla, you will find exciting news about the youth services over the Yomim Noraim and other Shul information and developments.

## *Torah Reading*

Leyning: Shoftim

Hertz p 820 Soncino p 1078

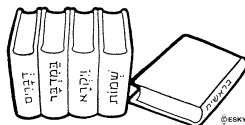
Haftorah:

Hertz p 835, Soncino p 1094

*Rabbi Nissan Wilson*

*Alexander Segall*

*We wish every success to those children moving from primary to secondary school, and to those young people going to University*



*This week's Clayhall Kehilla is kindly sponsored by Alma Levene and family in loving memory of her husband Barry*

**Children's Service:** 10.30am - 11.15am (resumes 5 September)

**Youth Service:** 10.30am - 11.15am (resumes 24 October)

### **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: 6 September & 19 October

### **NEROS Selichos Service**

The annual NEROS Selichos Service is being hosted by Newbury Park Shul, Wessex Close this year. It takes place on Saturday evening 12 September. The pre-service reception begins at 10.30 pm. The main address by Rabbi Baruch Davis (Chigwell) commences at 11.40 pm followed by the Selichos Service at midnight. The officiants are Reverend Gary Newman (Newbury Park) and Rabbi Benny Fleischer (Wanstead & Woodford). The service should be finished by 1.15 am. There is of course no need to pre-book!

### **Succah Lunch & Crawl**

If you are in school years 1 to 6, then this is for you! On **Sunday 4 October** (2nd day Succos), you can enjoy a lovely lunch in the Shul succah before visiting a few local succahs for even more great food and drink! The cost is just £5 and application forms will be sent out shortly. Please ensure these are sent back to the Shul office by 23 September. Catch up with more details about all Shul events on our *Facebook* group.

### **Genesis Events**

Following the success of the Chicago Bridge and Kalooki evening in May, the Genesis committee are organising a Supper Quiz on **Sunday 18 October** at RJCC and a Bingo evening on **Sunday 6 December** also at RJCC. These are important fund raising events for the Shul as well as being fun social evenings. More details will follow nearer the time. In March, Genesis is planning a "*Clayhall's Got Talent*" evening. It is hoped that this will be a major source of new funds to be used for the benefit of Clayhall Shul.

### **Yom Tov Youth Services**

We are delighted to welcome **Jamie Richards** to Clayhall over Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to run youth services. Jamie has an impressive pedigree and track record and he will be flying over from the States to be with us. His services have been secured courtesy of the **Tribe Rabbinic Intern Scheme** at NO cost to the community. Letters will be sent directly to young people in school years 7 to 11 shortly.

## *Youth and Junior Chatanim*

The following children and young people are being honoured this Simchas Torah and we wish Mazel Tov to them and their families.

Chasan Torah:	Sam Alexander & Samuel Freedman
Chasan Bereshis:	Oliver Lethbridge & Joshua Harris
Eshes Chayil:	Ellie Palmer & Naomi Harris

## *Children & Youth Services*

The Children Service resumes on Shabbos 5 September while the Youth Service re-starts on Shabbos 24 October. There will probably be a youth event run over Succos - possibly **Pizza In The Hut** - or something similar. If so, it will take place on the same evening as the Shul's Succos Party (Simchas Beis Ha' Shoeva) but this date has yet to be confirmed. Details will be mailed out in due course.

Both services are going well and they are enjoyed by those attending. The Children's Service has just benefited from a generous donation by Lawrence Davidson in memory of his father Sid Davidson z'l. Books and games have recently been bought in Sid's memory.

## *Indulgence Evening*

The Clayhall Ladies Association (CLASS) has had a brilliant response to the Indulgence Evening that takes place on **3 September at RJCC**. They are looking for volunteers to help take money on the door and to serve refreshments. CLASS is also hoping for some good **raffle prizes** donations. If you can help, please contact **Cynthia Simmons** on 8550 8018. It promises to be an entertaining and relaxing evening and all ladies are welcome.

## *Kashrus Update*

There has been some confusion over the Kellogg's entry under 'Cereal, Fruit & Nut Bars' on p.8 of the Kosher Nosh Guide Summer 2009. The listing of all varieties as 'NK' refers ONLY to the cereal bars and not to any Kellogg's cereals (which are not included in the Nosh Guide). The London Beis Din July 2009 update is out: [www.kosher.org.uk](http://www.kosher.org.uk)

## *Communal Family Event*

*"The Challenge of the Jewish Family in the 21st Century"* is the eye-catching title of a pre-High Holy Day programme taking place on **Sunday 6 September** from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm at King Solomon High School. The cost is £5 while under 16's are free. A full and thought-provoking few hours includes life coaching, and exploring family and relationships through Jewish sources. Lunch is available. For more information, please speak to **Fiona Elias** on 020 8498 1300 or email her at: [felias@kshonline.com](mailto:felias@kshonline.com)

## *King of Israel by Rabbi Yehuda Appel*

Ronald Reagan once made an interesting observation about the Soviet constitution. He said that although most of its provisions were being ignored, the text itself was **actually quite good**: It affirmed human rights and liberties and in many ways seemed similar to the American Bill of Rights. Then Reagan noted a **vital distinction** between the two: In the Soviet constitution, the **government** grants rights to the people, while in the American constitution, the **people** grant rights to the government. The difference is profound: Whether the **ultimate source of power** rests with the government or with the people.

Much of this week's Torah portion, Shoftim, describes the role and responsibilities of a **king of Israel**. In today's age of democracy, the idea of "kingship" may sound ancient and oppressive.

But unlike other monarchs, the king of Israel has his power limited by the Torah: He may not amass money and horses, and he is restricted from marrying a large number of wives. Moreover, he is to **carry a small copy of the Torah with him at all times to remind himself of his obligations**.

Given all these rules, says the Vilna Gaon, it is not surprising that a person can be **forced** into becoming king. At first glance, one might question why anyone would decline the chance to be king -given all the expectations of honor, power and wealth.

In fact, the position of king was filled with many daunting responsibilities, not the least of which was ensuring Israel's military successes. Unlike many other monarchies, the Israelite king was required to go into the actual heat of battle and **fight on the front lines** with his people! Putting his life on the line proves he is a servant of the people. The notion why someone might reject the office becomes more clear.

Perhaps most significant is that the reign of a Jewish king is **never imposed upon the people**. The king's power derives solely from the fact that he has garnered the full support of the citizens. For example, at one point when King David accuses an enemy of rebellion against the king, Avigail reminds David he is presently **not fully backed** by the people - and therefore his complaint is unjustified.

The Jewish idea is that any form of government is a pragmatic necessity. The Talmud (Pirkei Avos) notes that **"if it was not for fear of the government, people would swallow each other alive."** Thus, according to many commentators, establishing Jewish kingship actually fulfills the Mitzvah to preserve peace among the nation. On a deeper level, this teaches us that a monarchy is only necessary because of the nation's spiritual weakness. If people would act with proper fear of the Almighty, there would be **no need** for any formal government! Perhaps this explains one opinion in the Talmud which states that during the Messianic Age - when the reality of G-d will be fully manifest - there will be no human rulers.

*With grateful thanks to [www.aish.com](http://www.aish.com)*

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