

# קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 5 September 2009/ 16 Ellul 5769

## Service Times

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah Shlishis	6.55 pm
Shabbos ends	8.27 pm
Shabbos next week	7.10 pm

Our monthly **smoked salmon and beigel breakfast** takes place tomorrow morning after Shacharis followed by the **Dads n'Lads 5 -a-side football**. Davening is at the usual time of 8.15 am. Tickets and other information have just been sent out in the Rosh Hashanah mailing.

Next Saturday evening, 12 September, is the annual **NEROS Selichos Service** conducted by Rabbi Benny Fleischer and Rev Gary Newman. More details are inside your Clayhall Kehilla The Children's **Succos Lunch and Crawl** on Sunday 4 October and the **Pizza In The Hut** for the Youth on Monday 5 October are both **free** events, funded by CLASS and an anonymous donor. Turn overleaf for all the information.

## Torah Reading

Leyning: Ki Savo

Hertz p 859 Soncino p 1117

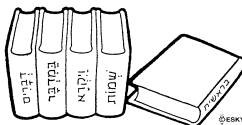
Haftorah:

Hertz p 874, Soncino p 1134

*Rabbi Nissan Wilson*

*Lester Harris*

*If you would like to purchase Arba Minim (The Four Species) for Succos, please let Deana know in the Shul office on 020 8551 6533. The price will probably be about £25 a set.*



*This week's Clayhall Kehilla is kindly sponsored by Irene Rosenberg in loving memory of her husband, Alvin*

**Children's Service:** 10.30am - 11.15am (today)  
**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 **FREE** 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.

## *Selichos Service Times*

From Monday 14 September, we will recite Selichos prior to Shacharis at 6.20 am. On Erev Rosh Hashanah, Friday 18 September, Selichos will begin at 5.45 am. On Monday 21 September (Fast of Gedaliah), Selichos will revert back to 6.20 am for that day and then commence at 6.30 am from Tuesday 22 September to Friday 25 September. Tallis and Tefillin are not worn during Selichos but are put on as usual prior to Shacharis.

## *Children, Youth & A Succos Party!*

The Children Service resumes today while the Youth Service re-starts on Shabbos 24 October. There will be a youth event run over Succos - **Pizza In The Hut** - on Monday 5 October at 6.00 pm in the Shul succah. So if you fancy pizza and chips followed by ice cream and cake, this is for you. Details will be sent to the youth directly. This will be followed by our popular **Simchas Beis Ha'Shoeva** (Succos Party) at 8.00 pm. It will include live musical entertainment, delicious desserts, nibbles and a few l'chaims! The Children's Service has recently 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.

## *Lunch & Learn*

As part of the new Adult Education programme at Clayhall, an exciting Lunch & Learn starts on **Thursday 10 September** in the Board Room. It will give participants a chance to combine lunch with some Torah learning in a convivial and warm environment. Rabbi Wilson is speaking on *"The History of the Shofar."* Beginning at 12.45 pm, the cost is £4 per person. For catering purposes, please call Deana to confirm your attendance or speak to Gordon Miller.

## *40 Days: 1 Ellul to 10 Tishri*

Our Sages have long spoken about the Segula (good omen) of praying for 40 consecutive days. Whether one recites *Shir Hashirim* (*Song of Songs*), *Tehillim* (Psalms) or personal heart-felt words, 40 days is a significant time period to arouse G-d's mercy. Praying for 40 consecutive days specifically at the Kotel (Western Wall) is a famous practice of Jews in Jerusalem. Most people have heard about the popular Segula through word-of-mouth and have made the pilgrimage for marriage partners, income, children, healing and other. According to Rav Sheinberger, author of a popular commentary on the Zohar (the definitive book of Kabbalah), the Segula was officially coined by Rabbi Yisroel Yaakov Fischer, of blessed memory - one of the leading Sages of the last generation. Dayan Fischer reportedly said that if someone goes to the Western Wall for 40 consecutive days to pray for one thing, it was a special Segula of its own.

## ***Spiritual Passion by Rabbi Yehudah Appel***

Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berdichev was a great Chassidic leader of 18<sup>th</sup> century Europe. It is well-documented that his love of G-d was so great that he lived in constant state of ecstasy. At his Shabbos table, as he recited prayers to G-d, no one ever knew what would happen. He might throw his Kiddush cup up in the air, start dancing on top of the table, or break into an hour-long bevy of song. The story goes that Rabbi Levi Yitzhak longed to share a Shabbat meal with Reb Baruch of Medzhibozh, another Chassidic master. There was, however, one difficulty: At Reb Baruch's table, everything was done in a dignified, royal manner - and any wildness on the part of the Rabbi Levi Yitzhak would not be welcome. A deal was struck between the two. Rabbi Levi Yitzhak felt he could control himself if he would but remain silent and not say anything more than "amen" during the meal.

When the appointed time arrived, much to everyone's surprise, everything went smoothly. That is, until Reb Baruch's servant asked Rabbi Levi Yitzhak whether he preferred his fish sweet or sour. "Fish?! Do I like fish?! I love G-d!!" he shouted and, overcome with ecstasy, he tossed the fish plate high into the air. To everyone's horror, the plate landed squarely on Reb Baruch's Tallis, staining it all over. Tension filled the air, as everyone awaited Reb Baruch's response.

Reb Baruch calmly announced: "These stains are holy - they were caused by a Jew who really loves G-d." Afterwards, Reb Baruch refused to have the stains washed out - because of the great enthusiasm they represented. And that treasured, stained Tallis was passed down through the generations! Rabbi Levi Yitzhak's behavior, as exceptional as it appears to be, actually has a deep source in Jewish tradition. Throughout Jewish literature, the Sages emphasize the need to lead one's life - especially one's spiritual life - with passion. In Rabbi Kalman Shapira's powerful spiritual guidebook, *"To Heal the Soul,"* he declares that every human being is filled with passion; the only question is in which direction we focus those passions.

A tremendous lesson is found in this week's Torah portion, Ki Tavo. A lengthy passage stretching over 53 verses describes all the horrific things that may befall the Jewish People if they act improperly. Such punishments as confusion, anxiety, depression, ignorance, starvation - and worse - may befall them. Remarkably though, the Torah emphasizes that this would come about only because *"You did not serve the Lord your G-d with joy and goodness of heart"* (Deut. 28:47).

Proper service of G-d does not simply consist of observing the mitzvot. It involves doing them with joy! The Sfas Emes (quoting the Arizal) provides us with a guideline for what constitutes sufficient joy in serving the Almighty. He states that one's joy for spiritual matters should be equal (if not greater) than one's joy in partaking of the physical and material realm. The way you run for pizza or a candy bar, is the same way you should run to the synagogue or to Torah study. Ultimately, it is the direction toward which we focus our passions that tells us who we really are.

*(adapted from an article on [www.aish.com](http://www.aish.com))*

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