



קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 2 January 2010/ 16 Teves 5770

Service Times (Arron & Alfie Rosen's Bar Mitzvah)

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah Shlishis	3.30 pm
Shabbos ends	4.57 pm
Shabbos next week	3.55 pm

We wish a very special Mazel Tov to **Arron & Alfie Rosen** on the wonderful occasion of their Bar Mitzvah today. Arron & Alfie together with their family have great pleasure in inviting the community to a Kiddush after the Service.

Clayhall's annual **Melava Malkah** is a flagship event and the Shul is delighted that both Dayan Yonasan Abraham and Chazan Gedalya Alexander will be our esteemed guests on Motsei Shabbos (Saturday evening) 23 January 2010. Please support this event. More information is overleaf.

Want to learn to read Hebrew in just 5 weeks? Then turn over for news about Rabbi Wilson's next 5-week reading crash course.

Torah Reading

Leyning: Vayechi

Hertz p 180 Soncino p 296

Haftorah:

Hertz p 191, Soncino p 315

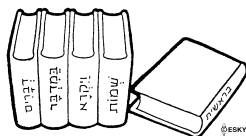
Lester Harris, Alfie &

Arron Rosen

Lester Harris

*Club 100 raises additional funds for the Shul.
Numbers are just £10 per year and there are two
draws - Chanukah and Shavuot.*

The closing date is Thursday 14 January 2010.



*This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by
Arron & Alfie Rosen in celebration of their Bar Mitzvah*

Children's Service: 10.30am - 11.15am (9 January 2010)

Youth Service: 10.30am - 11.15am (9 January 2010)

Weekday Services

Shacharis: Monday & Thursday, 6.50 am. Sunday @ 8.15 am.

Shacharis: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 7.00 am.

Shacharis Rosh Chodesh: 6.40 am Monday-Friday, Sundays 8.00 am.

Ma'ariv: 7.30 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Sunday breakfasts: 17 January, 14 February & 21 March

Hebrew Reading In 5 Weeks!

Learn to Read Hebrew in 5 Weeks
Whether you've never read Hebrew
before or your reading just needs a
bit of polishing

join Rabbi Wilson for a 5 week
adventure.

Starts: Wednesday 3rd February
at 8.00pm

in the Board Room at Sinclair House
Pre booking is essential.

Call the Shul office on 0208 551 6533

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

You really CAN do it!

Volunteers Wanted!

Clayhall is searching for new
volunteers to assist in a number
of different activities. Where
appropriate training will be
provided by professionals at
the United Synagogue.

- * Shopping for members
who are not well
- * Taking people to hospital,
dentist, and optician
appointments
- * Befriending
- * Helping with Shul mailings.

If you can spare one or two
hours a week, Colin Emden
would love to hear from you.
Please contact the Shul office.

Melava Malka

Our annual Melava Malka will take
place on Motsei Shabbos (Saturday
evening) 23rd January 2010. The first-
class line-up includes **Dayan Yonasan
Abraham** of the London Beis Din and
the beautiful melodious voice of
Chazzan Gedalya Alexander. They will
both complement a delicious salmon
buffet supper. Application forms have
been sent out and you are advised to
reply quickly to avoid disappointment.
It should be a very entertaining and
enjoyable evening.

Ladies Quiz

Clayhall Ladies Association
(CLASS) are holding a Supper
Quiz on **Tuesday 23 February
2010** at Sinclair House. This is a
ladies-only event. It is hoped that
the quiz will raise extra
funds for the Shul. Please do
your best to support by trying
to organise a table. Details will
follow. Meanwhile, contact
Cynthia Simmons for more
information.

Young Clayhall

In the recent Shul mailing, some very colourful posters were included to promote a range of different youth activities at Clayhall Synagogue. Among some of the suggested events and ideas for 2010 are:

- ⇒ *Bowling*
- ⇒ *Quasar*
- ⇒ *Ducktours*
- ⇒ *Sponsored bike ride*
- ⇒ *Paintballing*
- ⇒ *Skeet weekend*

If any of these ideas interest you, we want to hear it! Please contact Stuart Goldman on stuey45@hotmail.co.uk or the Shul office on 020 8551 6533, clayhallsynagogue@hotmail.com. We want you to join in and have fun.

Dads n'Lads Football

All fathers and sons (known as Dads n'Lads) are warmly invited to the monthly smoked salmon & beigel breakfast followed by 45 minutes of good exercise and friendly football competition! The next 3 dates are 17 January, 14 February and 21 March. Davening starts at 8.15 am.

Purim Taster...

After 3 years of blockbusting Purim Spiels that sent the critics wild, Purim 5770 is destined to scale new heights of dramatic and musical prowess. Starring anyone brave enough to take the heat with the kitchen, the one, and thankfully, only performance takes place on Saturday evening **27 February 2010** after the Megillah reading. You have been warned!

From the Shtetl to La Scala

Enjoy an evening of popular Jewish music and operatic arias in aid of **Chai Cancer Care** on Sunday 21 February at 7.30 pm at Hendon Synagogue, Raleigh Close, NW4. Featuring Tsudik Greenwald, Israel's rising star, making his UK debut; Menachem Bristowski, world renowned pianist; and accompanied by child prodigy, Orad Katz aged 11. This is a ticket only event and they must be bought in advance. Please see Lester Harris for application forms and more information.

KLBD Kashrus Alerts

The London Beis Din issued its latest Kashrus Alert on 14 December. You can catch up with all these updates by logging on to www.kosher.org.uk where you have the option to receive alerts direct to your home email.

Twelve Tribes and Months by Rabbi Max Weiman

The twelfth Torah Sedra includes the death of Yaacov, leaving the Twelve Tribes to lead the people. Interesting. Counting the tribes, we see that Menashe and Ephraim, two grandchildren of Yaacov, are given the status of "tribes." Why weren't the other grandchildren tribes? Why isn't just their father, Yosef, a tribe? Why isn't Yaacov's daughter, Dinah, a tribe?

It must be that the tribes are not merely the sons of Yaacov but they represent a spiritual reality. It was predestined that there must be 12. Twelve months, 12 tribes, 12 zodiac signs - they all revolve around each other in a spiritual realm and influence us from above. The kabbalistic *Book of Creation*, attributed to Avraham, reveals the underpinnings of the universe, and ties together sets of 12.

A lunar cycle lasts 29½ and continues like this indefinitely. Earth revolves around the sun for 365 days and contains no "months." The Hebrew calendar combines the two systems, lunar and solar by counting 12 months and calling it a year, lasting about 354 days. Therefore, the Hebrew calendar is considered "luni-solar."

Secular society uses the Gregorian Calendar, that has undergone some changes over the years from Egypt to Rome and beyond. At this point, the months (Jan., Feb., etc.) have no relationship to anything astronomical. If you want to be more in touch with the spiritual forces influencing the world, you must get back in touch with a Hebrew calendar. Each Hebrew month has its own flavor and impact on us. The Hebrew word for "tribe" is *shevet*, which also means staff or rod. A ruler used to have a staff, rod or sceptre as a symbol of power and authority. Just as a ruler has power over the people, tribes had a power structure, and the months of the year have authority over us.

A fascinating man lived in the 13th century, who wrote the most famous *Gematria* (kabbalistic numerology) commentary. Rabbeinu Asher, Rabbi Yaakov excelled in many areas of scholarship. His commentary includes all of the *Gematria* codes mentioned above. One interesting example is the following:

In this week's Sedra, Yaacov gives blessing to his children, who are to carry on the tradition as the nation of Israel with a covenant from the Almighty. They are one entity made up of 12 parts. Rabbi Yaakov finds an interesting reference to this in the blessings of Yaacov:

Each blessing has the name of the tribe and the blessing. Each time a tribe is mentioned, if you take the **first** letter of the next word and its numerical value, and add all the "first letters" of the word after the name of the tribe, the sum total is 365, the days of the solar year.

If you do the same thing with the **last** letters of the word following the tribe's name and add them all up, the sum is 354, the days of the lunar year. Rabbi Yaakov then compares a passage from Jeremiah (31:34-35):

"So says G-d, Who gives sun for light during the day, the fixed laws of the moon and stars for light at night... If these laws depart from me, says G-d, then also the seed of Israel will stop being a nation before me for all time." Each Hebrew month and year has its own parameters of what challenges we are facing, and how those challenges affect our overall growth. In order to tap into that power, we must be aware of the months and their power.

Clayhall United Synagogue

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