



קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 13 February 2010/ 29 Shevat 5770

Service Times (Parashas Shekalim & Shabbos Mevarachim)

Shacharis	9.00 am
Minchah followed by Seudah Shlishis	4.30 pm
Shabbos ends	6.00 pm
Shabbos next week	5.07 pm

We wish a big Mazel Tov to **Johnny Lyndon** on the wonderful occasion of his 2nd Bar Mitzvah. The community also wish Helen and Johnny many more happy and healthy years together. Helen & Johnny and their family have great pleasure in inviting the Kehilla to a Kiddush in celebration of their Simchah.

Purim is only two weeks away. Please don't forget to book your places for the action-packed evening programme on Saturday 27 February. More details are inside. On Purim morning, we shall daven Shacharis at the usual time of 8.15 am. The Megillah will be read at 9.00 am followed by a special Purim breakfast.

Torah Reading

Leyning: Mishpatim

Hertz p 306 Soncino p 471

Maftir: Shemos 21:11-16, H p352, S p540

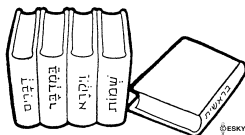
Haftorah:

Hertz p 992, Soncino p 1191

**Gad Naaman &
Johnny Lyndon**

Hermie Rothman

*The monthly smoked salmon and beigel breakfast followed by Dads n'Lads football takes place tomorrow Sunday 14th February. Shacharis is earlier at **8am** as it is Rosh Chodesh.*



This week's Clayhall Kehilla has been kindly sponsored by the Lyndon family on the occasion of Johnny's Second Bar Mitzvah

Children's Service: 10.30am - 11.15am (27 February)

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 8am.

Ma'ariv: 7.30 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Sunday breakfasts: 14 February & 21 March

Lunch & Learn: 4 March

Mobiles To Matzah

"Help us turn your old mobiles into matzah! Have you got any old mobile handsets hiding in a cupboard or drawer? Everyone knows recycling is good for the environment, and now recycling can also make a difference to the lives of people in your community. **Project Chesed** is collecting old mobile phones which will be re-used where possible - and if not they will be recycled. The great news is that for every old phone you give us, we'll get money back that will be invested in Pesach food parcels. These parcels help members of our communities struggling with the extra costs of Pesach. Bring your old mobile handsets to your local collection point (**Clayhall Shul office**). Help us to make a difference to even more lives. We just need your old phone with its battery. No chargers are required and don't forget to remove your SIM card." **Project Chesed** teaches the Jewish responsibility we have for our fellow human beings, encourages more acts of charity and kindness and inspires our community to make a difference. It is a joint **United Synagogue/London School of Jewish Studies** initiative and supported by the Dr Benjamin Angel Foundation.

Really Jewish Food Guide

The Really Jewish Food Guide

2010 is now available from Jewish stores, schools and shuls in London. The new guide is fully updated and lists many new products. This year's guide includes two pages of discount vouchers for some of London's finest kosher restaurants. You can also purchase your guide locally through **Ilford Judaica**. You can email:

ilfordjudaica@tiscali.co.uk for further information.

Log on to www.kosher.org.uk and subscribe for automatic Kashrus alert updates to keep right up to date with news.

Ladies Quiz

Clayhall Ladies Association (CLASS) are holding a £6 Recession Buster 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. More details will follow. Meanwhile, contact Cynthia Simmons for extra information.

Rosh Chodesh Group

The next Rosh Chodesh group is this Tuesday 16 February. The guest speaker is **Susan Nahum** who will talk about "Dementia and the work of Jewish Care." On Tuesday 9 March, **Rebbetsen Wilson** will talk about "The Laws of Cooking on Pesach."

Both evenings begin at 8.30 pm at the home of Rebbetsen Wilson, 19 Lakeside Avenue, Redbridge. Refreshments are always served! All ladies are warmly welcome. The atmosphere is convivial and light. Although the emphasis is educational, it is a pleasant sociable way to spend two hours.

Purim@Clayhall

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! Casting and rehearsals are being held in a secret location far away from Redberg Shul.

Ma'ariv will start at **6.35 pm** followed by Megillah reading. Our great value -for-money fish and chip supper (£4 adults, £2 u/16's) will be about **7.30 pm** and the Purim Spiel should begin no later than **8.15 pm**. Somewhere in between all the excitement will be a prize fancy dress competition!

Parashas Shekalim

When the Temple stood, a positive mitzvah was incumbent upon everyone to contribute half a shekel yearly for the purchase of the communal offerings. Even a poor person had to give. If one lacked half a shekel, he borrowed from others or even sold one of his garments to be able to give. "*The rich shall not increase and the poor shall not diminish from half a shekel*" (*Shemos 30*). The Sages enacted that on the Shabbos before Adar or on the Shabbos on which Rosh Chodesh Adar fell, the passage on Shekalim was to be read from the Torah.

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.

Rosh Chodesh Adar

Rosh Chodesh Adar is tomorrow and Monday, 14th/15th February. Shacharis is a little earlier - 8am on Sunday and 6.40am on Monday. Service time is about one hour.

The Moral Challenge by Rabbi Shaul Rosenblatt

I'm going to mention a few of the Torah's civil laws from this week's sedra, and I want to issue a challenge: Can you name any other society that had such an incredibly sophisticated moral code 3,000 years ago, or 1,000, or even 100 years ago. I will even venture to challenge that no one can find a code today that matches up. This is not saying that Jews are better than anyone else. Rarely have we fully lived up to these values. I'm just saying that the value system clearly seems to be above and beyond anything that human beings could have or would have come up with themselves. Here are my few examples:

There is no debtor's prison in Judaism. There is no point in putting debtors in prison, much as we might feel we would like to. Both the UK and USA only saw fit to abolish this in the 19th century.

In general, the punishment for theft is paying back the amount stolen. There is no harsher punishment if more money is involved. Stealing more money is no worse than stealing less. Values are absolute, not money dependant. Theft is theft, be it Bernie Madoff or a pickpocket. Only in a society that places money on too high a pedestal, will Madoff be viewed as worse.

It is forbidden to push someone into selling you something that they don't want to sell, even if you offer way above the market value. By putting them in a corner, you impinge upon their right of ownership. A buyer must, in Jewish law, take "no" for an answer.

A lender is not allowed to press the borrower to repay a loan. If the borrower does not have the money, Jewish law states that the lender must go out of his way to avoid him, so as not to embarrass him.

If you take a deposit for a loan from a poor man, you must return it to him when he needs it.

Full-time household servants cannot be put in lesser accommodation than their masters. They must live in the same size rooms, have the same softness of beds, the same amount of pillows and eat the same food. Simply put, one must treat one's servants as one's equals.

If there is a dispute between a worker and an employer, the worker always has the upper hand. Labour laws were pretty much forced upon Western society in the 19th and 20th centuries by the power of trade unions. In Jewish law, the worker was been protected from his wealthy employer for over 3,000 years.

These are just a few examples of the incredible moral sophistication in the Torah. As I learn Torah's codes of values, I am rarely unimpressed. Anyone want to take me up on my challenge?!

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