



## Times of Services

**Friday 29 August 2014**  
Shabbat begins: 7.39 pm  
Mincha/  
Kabbalat Shabbat: 7.15 pm

**Shabbat 30 August 2014**  
Shacharit: 9.30 am  
Shabbat ends: 8.41 pm

**Sunday 31 August 2014**  
Shacharit: 8.40 am

**Friday 5 September 2014**  
Shabbat begins: 7.24 pm  
Mincha/  
Kabbalat Shabbat: 7.15 pm

# Ealing Synagogue Newsletter



**שבת שלום**

**Friday 29 August 2014/Shabbat 4 Elul 5774**

Sidra: **Shoftim**

## SHABBAT 6 SEPTEMBER KIDDUSH

Dawn and Neil Shestopal have pleasure in inviting the community to Kiddush in celebration of Neil's 70th birthday. Please join us in wishing Neil mazal tov on his special day.

Jeremy Gerlis will be reading Haftorah and Cherna Crome will be giving the D'Var Torah.

### Reading the Haftarah



If you would like to read Haftarah to mark a special event or just to make your personal contribution to the service, please let us know. Brian Robinson would be delighted to help with any preparation or revision that would be needed. Please contact him directly—Brian: 020 8567 6558.

## SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER : "BLOW YOUR OWN SHOFAR"

"Blow Your Own Shofar" is intended to be a fun (and noisy) event after Shacharit. Breakfast will be provided. Shacharit will be at 8.40 am and breakfast will follow at 9.30 am. The event will be conducted by Michael Mars and is designed to instruct everyone in how to blow the shofar. Those who have their own shofars are asked to bring them. Michael will be bringing only(!) 13 of his own so there will be enough for everyone to take an active part! This event is open to everyone! For catering purposes, please contact Michael Mars on [michael.mars@msn.com](mailto:michael.mars@msn.com) or call him on: 020 8993 0290 if you would like to come along.

### Sponsoring an Event



If you are celebrating a Simcha or commemorating a family Yahrzeit, or if you are just feeling generous, please consider sponsoring a Shabbat morning Kiddush, Seudah or Sunday morning breakfast. Contact Joan Michaels: 020 8579 4261.

## EALING FOOD BANK COLLECTION—SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

There will be another collection for Ealing's Food Bank on Sunday 7 September. Foods desperately wanted are tinned spaghetti, coffee, sugar, tinned puddings, tinned potatoes, dried or UHT milk, tinned vegetarian meals, long life fruit juice. The collection bank has a surfeit of rice, pasta, tinned tomatoes and baked beans. It has been much appreciated that the Synagogue has joined with the local churches to contribute to this local need. Please bring your contributions to the shul on Sunday morning.

### Israeli Dancing!



Every Tuesday evening at 8.00 pm at Ealing Synagogue. All welcome. No charge.

### Ealing Synagogue Library

All the books in the Library are available to borrow. Please sign your name and book details in the Register. If you have any books that you would like to donate to the Library, please call Michael Jacobs—020 8998 7932. Please do not leave them at the shul.

In the event of a bereavement, in the first instance please contact the Burial Office : 020 8950 7767.

Rabbi Hershi Vogel: 07970 829758  
Brian Robinson: 020 8567 6558  
Neil Shestopal: 020 8579 5099

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Reg. Charity No. 242552

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Ealing Synagogue Website: [www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk](http://www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk)

**WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER : 7.30 PM**  
**“IT’S NO DREAM—THE LIFE OF THEODOR HERZL”**

Details are on the attached flyer. For catering purposes, please contact Marianne Temple if you would like to come along.

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**SUNDAY 31 AUGUST**  
**RALLY—CAMPAIGN AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM UK**

**Note to Chairmen from Stephen Pack**  
**Rally on Sunday 31st August at 2.00 pm – Campaign Against Anti-Semitism UK**

I am writing to request your support for the above rally at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand WC2A 2LL. The aim of this event is to express our concern about the increasing level of anti-Semitic incidents in the UK – several of them involving our own shuls and members.

I have emailed our membership database [letter on pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter] and I hope you will do your best to attend and bring as many as possible from your community.

I realise that this is very short notice but we were only made aware of this rally a couple of days ago. I also realise that rallies are not the sole action required in this difficult situation. We need to do a lot more and I will write again about some other actions shortly.

Please try and support this – as a significant presence from the US is both necessary and appropriate.

Stephen Pack  
President  
United Synagogue

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**GALIL/GOLAN ARCHAEOLOGY TOUR 2014**  
**LATE OCTOBER/EARLY NOVEMBER**

Following the success of the Ealing Synagogue 2004 archaeological tour with Dr Haim Cohen, a top rated lecturer/guide, a new tour is planned for late October/early November. If you are interested, please get in touch with Aviva Preston as soon as possible (email: [alptours@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alptours@hotmail.co.uk)) as soon as possible. The proposed itinerary is attached (page7).

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**OFFICE CLOSURE**

Please note that our administrator, Mellissa Levitt, will be on holiday from Wednesday 3 September. The office will be closed on Tuesday 9 September and re-open on Tuesday 16 September. Our caretaker, Janusz Teitz, will also not be available during this time.

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# Snapshot Torah



GUIDE TO THE WEEKLY PARSHA

ISSUE 49

30th August 2014

SHOFTIM

4th Elul 5774

**Kohen - First Aliya:** Chapter 16, verse 18 - Chapter 17, verse 13

- ✦ Moshe tells Bnai Yisrael to assign judges and officers for the tribes. Once appointed they are instructed to make sure they adjudicate fairly.
- ✦ Moshe warns the people not to plant any idolatrous Asherah trees or erect anything linked to idol worship. The penalty for anyone found committing any acts of idolatry is stoning as long as it witnessed by at least two people. A single witness cannot condemn a person to death.
- ✦ If there is a dispute which the local courts are unable to settle. The case is then taken to the Kohanim and Levi'im to determine the outcome. Anyone who refuses to listen or comply with the final judgment is put to death.

**Levi - Second Aliya:** Chapter 17, verses 14 - 20

- ✦ Moshe explains how an anointed Jewish King should behave, i.e. He must not have an excessive amount of horses, wives, silver and gold because they might lead him astray.
- ✦ The King is instructed to write two Sefer Torah's, one copy must be kept with him at all times in order not to become too arrogant and deviate from the commandments.

**Sh'lshi - Third Aliya:** Chapter 18, verses 1 - 5

- ✦ Moshe explains, the reason why the Kohanim were not allocated any land was because they were chosen by Hashem personally to be his holy servants and that instead of an inheritance they will be the beneficiaries of receiving priestly gifts, selections of meat kept behind from certain Korbanos as well as tithes given to them by the other tribes.

**R'v'i - Fourth Aliya:** Chapter 18, verses 6 - 12

- ✦ Even though the Kohanim are designated with their own role, serving in the Mishkan or the future temple, they can retain the right to offer up their own personal korbanos at any time.
- ✦ Moshe lists the kinds of false Prophets, soothsayers, sorcerers and astrologers amongst others, which the other nations listen to but are prohibited to us because we have Hashem.

**Chamishi - Fifth Aliya:** Chapter 18, verse 13 - Chapter 19, verse 13

- ✦ If any Jewish Navi (Prophet) speaks in Hashem's name and declares that certain things will happen or must change but never transpires or goes against the Torah. They are classified as false-prophets and punished accordingly for trying to lead others astray.
- ✦ Moshe then reiterates the command to establish cities of refuge for inadvertent murderers.

**Shishi - Sixth Aliya:** Chapter 19, verse 14 - Chapter 20, verse 9

- ✦ The laws of witnesses are discussed in detail here.
- ✦ The rules of engaging an enemy in war are described here, including the prohibition of those people who are exempt from going into battle for various reasons.

**Sh'vi'i - Seventh Aliya:** Chapter 20, verse 10 - Chapter 21, verse 9

- ✦ Before waging war with the enemy we are commanded to try and make a peaceful resolution with them first to avoid bloodshed. If they refuse to listen, only then are we allowed to go out and fight.
- ✦ The procedure of what should be done relating to an Eglah Arufah. (A corpse which was found in-between two cities) is written in detail here.

## Haftorah – Page 27, YISHAYAH (ISAIAH) Chapter 51 verse 12 to Chapter 52 verse 12

### OVERVIEW:

- ✿ In answer to the past two weeks that Israel will not be consoled by any words offered to them by any Prophet; The Haftarah begins with Hashem assuring his people he will be the one who will comfort them personally.
- ✿ After briefly reprimanding Israel for forgetting Hashem and the suffering they had to endure because of it, Yishayah tells them the time has now arrived when our oppressors will become the oppressed and our hardships will cease to exist.
- ✿ Yishayah highlights the differences between the exodus from Mitzraim (Egypt, and the future Redemption which will end all exiles.

### LINK TO SEDRA READING:

- ✿ This is the fourth prophecy of comfort read between the fast of Av and Rosh Hashanah.
- ✿ Unfortunately I was unable to find a direct connection between the Parsha and the Haftorah

### WEEKLY DISCUSSION:

Amazing as it seems the month of Elul is with us. Not only is the last month of the Jewish calendar year, we should treat it with immense awe and a subdued moment in our lives committing ourselves to slow down and take stock of your life and self-analysing of all the successes and failures you may have done in the past; in order to be ready to bring in the New Year with a clean slate and renewed hope that after all the terrible atrocities we've unfortunately witnessed this past year will cease, so peace will once again reign supreme.

Elul is a time for personal growth. During Elul, we should ask ourselves if we made the most of our life and reached our potential this past year and how we can improve ourselves in the upcoming year. Having once identified our past mistakes through introspection, the next step is find a way to do Teshuva properly, by repenting with all your heart the Aveiros, (sins) committed.

Once again the month of Elul comes to the rescue, with the recitation of the special prayers called Selichot. This prayers focuses on entirely of producing Teshuva in which we ask Hashem personally to forgive us. The Sephardic communities have already began reciting Selichot on, Rosh Chodesh Elul however the Ashkenazi Jews begin reciting these prayers on the Saturday night before Rosh Hashanah. The Selichot prayers describe the 13 merciful attributes of God. It was during the month of Elul that the Jews sinned by building the Golden Calf, Moses pleaded to Hashem to forgive them, and where Hashem explained the 13 Attributes of Mercy.

The sounding of the shofar is also crucial component during Elul so to speak, is the charger for our life battery that allows it to be fully functional in Tishrei and in the months beyond. We have all experienced the frustration of a dying battery on our cell phone or laptop computer at a vital moment. Well I think that this is how our soul feels if it was not somehow meaningfully recharged in the month of Elul. It runs out of power at crucial moments of our life. And that is usually the time that we need it most.

The sounding of the shofar in the month of Elul lends a sense of immediacy and drama to Elul. Small things never are a big deal. But Jewish tradition has chosen to make a big deal out of Elul and I totally agree. In reality the effect of any wrongs we have done, both individually and collectively, does not go away. We have to ponder the consequences of our words and deeds, express our remorse, and, above all, act upon it now before it in the month of Elul before it's too late. We have the capacity, to love and forgive all of Hashem's creations. Hashem has bestowed his inspiration on this great responsibility! I pray that we as a community will not let him down

שבת שכולם  
Shabbat Shalom

Compiled, Designed & Written by Jeremy Symons



26<sup>th</sup> August 2014



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Dear Friends

The events of recent weeks have left the Jewish community feeling very uneasy. At such a time we each have to answer an important question: "How will I respond?"

This is about more than just the recent media focus on Israel and Gaza. The suffering that is occurring right across the Middle East rightly remains of enormous concern to us all, however we need to act now in response to the growing problems that are affecting life for Jews here in the UK.

This Sunday (31st Aug) there will be a rally organised by the Campaign Against Anti-Semitism UK at 2.00pm at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, WC2A 2LL to demand Zero Tolerance of Anti-Semitism. (Their website is here:

<http://www.campaignagainstantisemitism.com/> or if you plan to go, the following link <https://www.facebook.com/events/1485391318385133/> to the event on Facebook will help the organisers keep track of the numbers attending.)

The President and Trustees of the United Synagogue are supporting this rally and we are writing to the Chairmen and members of all of our shuls to urge as many as possible to attend. As the largest Jewish communal organisation in the UK, we need to stand up now against anti-Semitism in this country.

The violence of some of the views that we have seen expressed should sound alarm bells, as should the violence that has already begun against a number of UK synagogues and communal buildings. When words begin to be translated into action against property, as Jews we have all too clear an understanding of where this leads. As the CST reports an enormous increase in anti-Semitic incidents it is not enough for us to express concern about the rising tide of anti-Semitism, we need to do something about it. All of us need to stand up for our community.

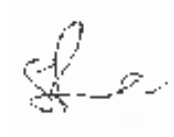
The many thousands of members of The US can make a real difference. Since early July, in addition to numerous meetings, prayer services and a variety of publicity and educational materials, The United Synagogue has continued to ask members to respond to what is happening in the media (both on and offline). Sharing our concerns with political leaders, the media, our friends and colleagues is important. Raising our voices in prayer and in protest

President: Stephen Pack Treasurer: Brian Markeson  
Trustees: Stephen Fenton, Stephen Goldman, Russell Kell, Claire Lomax, Leonie Lewis, Doreen Samuel, Jacqui Zinkin

follows a tradition that dates back to the birth of the Jewish people. We all must do what we can to counter the terrible threat that anti-Semitism represents.

The US is committed to standing alongside all those Jewish organisations who are fighting to protect our communal life. We will keep our members up to date with all that is being done through You & US, our website and of course our local communities. What remains is for our members to answer the question: "How will I respond?"

I hope you will join me at the rally on Sunday.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Pack', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Stephen Pack**  
President  
United Synagogue

**Galil/Golan Archaeology Tour 2014**

**Guide Lecturer Dr. Haim Cohen, Biblical Archaeologist**

Update:

Dates: 26<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> October 2014 (preferred) or 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014

When I know where everyone is staying we will decide best pick-up location(s).

I am assuming pick up early on Sunday from Tel Aviv/Herzlia/Natanya and returning to there on Friday afternoon, but this is flexible.

You should be aware that the clocks change (go back) on the 26th - that is at 2.00am - which will become 1.00am - this is important for two reasons –

1. That you don't miss the bus; and
2. That we get you back to wherever in good time for Shabbat the next week which will be at 4.30pm.

We will be staying in the North hopefully at Ramot Resort Hotel if not there then at Kfar Blum - both great places to stay and if you want to stay on for Shabbat afterwards I'm sure we can get good rates.

Dr. Haim Cohen is our Archaeologist guide and lecturer.

I have to stress that Haim is a top rated lecturer/guide and our hotel choice is the best in the area so the costs are not going to be bargain basement. I estimate the cost will be in the region of £900 per person.

If you are Israeli then there is vat to be added to hotel charges and if you are coming alone no doubt there will be a supplement for single occupancy of the room.

**The Itinerary:**

**Day One:** Driving North Haim will be lecturing on the history and topography and we will be visiting the caves in Mt Carmel, (pre historic) Megiddo (the Jewel in the Crown of Biblical Archaeology, and the subject of many controversies within the archaeology community, (So even if you have visited before, doing so in the company of a noted biblical archaeologist may be an eye-opener) and Beit Shearim to where Sanhedrin moved after the destruction of the 2nd temple and where Yehuda Hanassi is buried.

**Day Two:** will be in the Tel Dan area and further. We will also visit Tel Facher and include a winery.

**Day Three** we'll be at Hazor and new excavations and in and around Sefat.

Now there is so much new to see and learn in Akko that will become the main part of Day four, returning via Hamat Gader and dinner on the lake.

Finally if you haven't been to Bet Shean it's a must, and if you have then it's worth a return trip again especially in the company of Haim. That's the basic plan - but knowing Haim there will be more stops en route!

Trust me, it'll be a great week!

**TELL YOUR FRIENDS  
PASS ON THIS E MAIL NOW!**

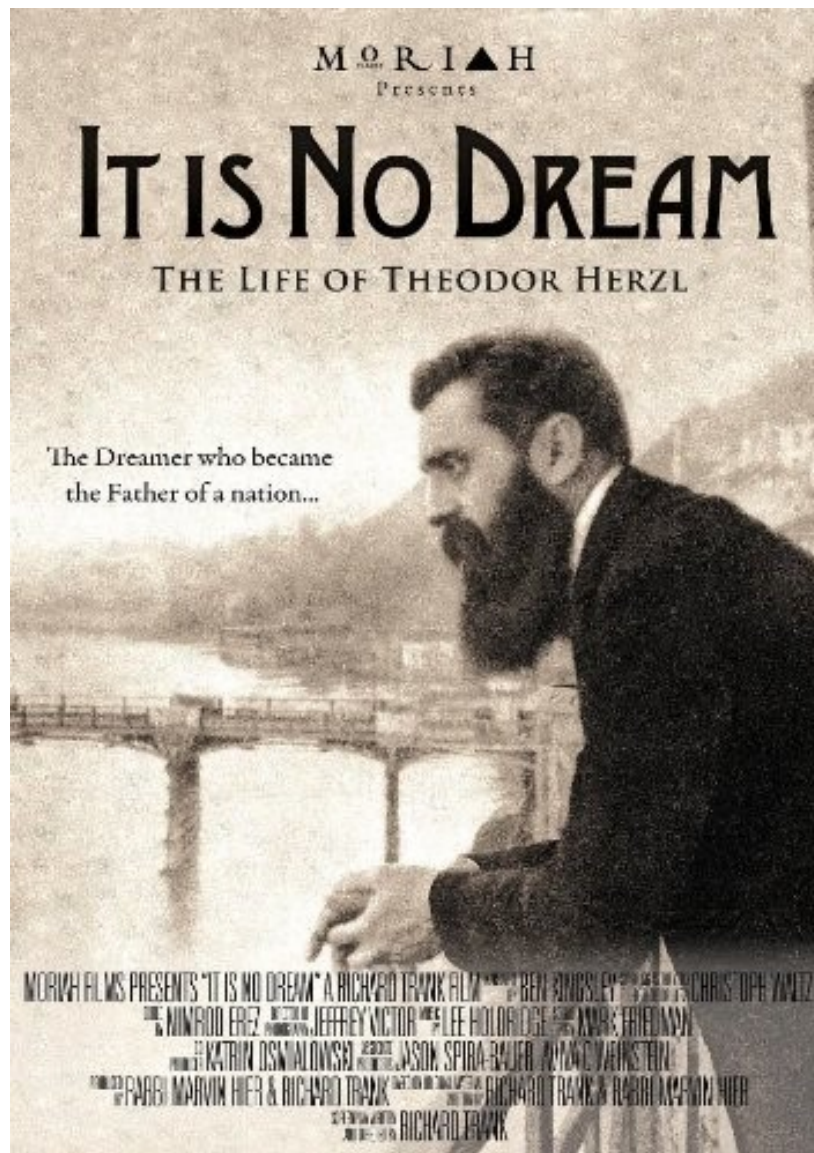
Numbers will influence price obviously and as this is very soon I need to secure hotel rooms asap.

**WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2014 : 7.30 PM PROMPT  
FILM PRESENTATION**

**“It is No Dream—The Life of Theodor Herzl”**

Narrated by Sir Ben Kingsley

Christoph Waltz as the voice of Theodor Herzl



**“It Is No Dream: The Life of Theodor Herzl” explores the life and times of Theodor Herzl, father of the modern State of Israel. The film examines how Herzl, a well-known journalist and playwright, an assimilated, Budapest-born Jew, horrified by the Dreyfus trial in Paris and the anti-Semitism he saw spreading across Europe, took upon himself the task of attempting to create a Jewish homeland in Palestine against all odds. Over the span of eight years, Herzl organized and led a worldwide political movement that within fifty years led to the establishment of the State of Israel. The film follows Herzl as he meets with Kings, Prime Ministers, Ambassadors, a Sultan, a Pope and government ministers from Constantinople to St. Petersburg, from Paris to Berlin, from Vienna to Vilna in his quest to build a Jewish nation.**

**Our thanks to Guy Ornelat for initiating and organising the showing of this film.**

**Suggested donation: £5.00. Refreshments will be provided. For catering purposes, please advise Marianne Temple if you would like to come to this special screening.**