



Times of Services 2015

Friday 27 November
Shabbat begins: 3.43 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 3.45 pm

Shabbat 28 November
Shacharit: 9.30 am
Haftorah: **Michael Jacobs**
Mincha: **After Kiddush**
Shabbat ends: 4.50 pm

Sunday 29 November
Shacharit: 8.40 am

Friday 4 December
Shabbat begins: 3.38 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 3.45 pm

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 contact Brian Robinson, who will be delighted to help with any preparation or revision.

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.

AJR—Meets the 1st Tuesday in every month at 2.00 pm. Contact Leslie Sommer: 020 8993 7574.

Israeli Dancing!



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

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

Ealing Synagogue Newsletter



שבת שלום

Friday 27 November 2015/Shabbat 16 Kislev 5776

Sidra: Vayishlach

MAZAL TOV

To **Helen and Michael Mars** on the birth of a new grandson. Sebastian Frederick Mars was born on Tuesday 24 November weighing in at 6lbs 3oz in Melbourne, Australia. The Ealing community extends a big Mazal Tov to parents Daniel and Emily and big brother Benjamin. Wishing the growing Mars family much joy from their new addition.

TUESDAY 1 DECEMBER AJR

This month's AJR meeting will be an (early) joint Chanukah party with the Wembley branch of AJR at Ealing Synagogue. The meeting will start at 2.00 pm and the cost will be £5.00 per person. For catering purposes, please contact Leslie Sommer if you would like to attend.

THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER : 12.30 PM CHANUKAH COMMUNITY LUNCH

Please join us for a special Chanukah lunch. Everyone is welcome. For catering purposes, please contact Alison Shindler-Glass (alisonshindler@aol.com) if you would like to come.

For your diary, the next Community Lunch will be on Thursday 21 January 2016.

Ealing Synagogue,
15 Grange Road, London W5 5QN
Reg. Charity No. 242552
Minister: Rabbi Hershi Vogel, BA
Administrator: Sandra Moses

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Ealing Synagogue Newsletter: esnewsletter@btinternet.com
Ealing Synagogue Website: www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk

Ealing Synagogue

Mitzvah Day - Tuesday 24 November 2015

Ealing Synagogue hosted a tea party for a group of residents and their carers from the St David's Home of Ex-Servicemen and Women, and Chestnut Lodge, a local authority home, many of whose residents have some form of dementia. Entertainment was provided by Pippa Reid, a professional singer/story teller who received an excellent response from our guests in a clap-along/singalong. The residents and carers of both homes said they really enjoyed the afternoon. Our thanks to all the ladies who prepared the tea and to everyone from the Ealing community who helped to make the afternoon such a success.



Snapshot Torah



GUIDE TO THE WEEKLY PARSHA

THIRD EDITION / ISSUE 8

November 28th 2015

VAYISHLACH

16th Kislev 5775

Kohen - First Aliya:

Chapter 32, verses 4 - 13

- ✚ Not wanting to enter the land of Edom unannounced, Yaacov sends out emissaries to Esav who was dwelling in Seir seeking permission to pass through on his way back home.
- ✚ Upon delivering the message that Yaacov had been sojourning with Lavan until now and had acquired much wealth; the emissaries returned informing Yaacov that Esav had gathered four hundred men and was now making their way out to meet him.
- ✚ Fearing the worst Yaacov divides up his entourage, herds, flocks and camels into two camps; so that if Esav attacked one camp the other camp would survive. He then prayed to Hashem to come to his aid once more and help him

Levi - Second Aliya:

Chapter 32, verses 14 - 30

- ✚ Yaacov sends out his servants laden with gifts to try and appease Esav.
- ✚ In order to keep his family safe, Yaacov takes them across the Yabok River.
- ✚ Once alone, an angel of Esav came and wrestled with Yaacov but as both of their defences were strong the fight lasted all night.
- ✚ The angel injures Yaacov's thigh, but still Yaacov does not yield. Admitting defeat the Angel sends Yaacov on his way, but Yaacov refuses to go until the Angel blesses him.
- ✚ The Angel changes Yaacov's name to Israel.

Sh'tishi - Third Aliya:

Chapter 32, verse 31 - Chapter 33, verse 5

- ✚ In recognition of Yaacov's bravery, despite his injured thigh, we are commanded not eat the 'gid hanasheh' (the hind quarter's) of any animal.
- ✚ Looking up Yaacov sees Esav in the distance, approaching with four hundred men.
- ✚ Yaacov then arranges his family so that Bilha and Zilpah along with their children lead the field, with Leah and her children following behind, leaving Rachel and Yoseph a short distance behind in the rear.
- ✚ Yaacov then prostrates himself in front of his brother seven times, before Esav rushes up and embraces him kindly.

R'vii - Fourth Aliya:

Chapter 33, verses 6 - 20

- ✚ Yaacov introduces his family to Esav who then grants them a safe passage through the land of Edom
- ✚ Yaacov and family continue their journey until they reached the land of Canaan and settled down in the city of Shechem.

Chamishi - Fifth Aliya:

Chapter 34, verse 1 - Chapter 35, verse 11

- ✚ Yaacov's daughter Dinah is abducted by the King's Son who desires to marry her.
- ✚ Enraged her brothers convince the king and his son to circumcise themselves along with the rest of the men in the city. On the third day after their mass bris, Shimon and Levy loot the city, killing every male in the process.
- ✚ Hashem sends Yaacov and his family to Beit El asking him to build an altar there.
- ✚ Hashem then officially changes Yaacov's name to Yisrael and blesses him, saying his descendants will become a great nation and will one day receive the land that he promised Avraham and Yitzhak.

Shishi - Sixth Aliya:

Chapter 35, verse 12 - Chapter 36, verse 19

- ✚ While journeying from Beit El to Efrat, Rachel gives birth to Binyamin but she unfortunately dies in childbirth. Yaacov buries her in Beit Lehem.
- ✚ Yaacov finally reaches his childhood home in Hebron and is reunited once more with his father Yitzhak.
- ✚ Yitzhak passes away aged 180. Esav returns and along with Yaacov buries Yitzhak in the cave of machpelah.

Sh'vii - Seventh Aliya:

Chapter 36, verses 20 - 43

- ✚ .The Chronicles of Esav and his descendants are recorded here.

Haftorah – Ovadiah chapter 1, verses 1 - 21

OVERVIEW:

- ✚ Ovadiah the prophet foretells what fate will be bestowed upon the nation of Edom.
- ✚ All the nations of the world will unite and wage war against them, leaving Edom no choice but to engage in a battle which they know deep down they would never win.
- ✚ Once Edom is defeated, Israel's survival is secured as Hashem's kingdom and will be established forever.

GEMATRIA LINKED TO THE SEDRA

- ✚ Yaakov hinted to Esav that, although he had been staying with the swindler Lavan for a considerable amount of time, Yaakov still kept all of the 613 Mitzvot.
- ✚ How do we know this? If you look at the phrase "With Lavan have I Lived" (Chapter 32, verse 5), you will notice that the word גרתי 'geritee I lived' has the Gematria of 613

WEEKLY DISCUSSION:

In this week's Parsha we read of the incident involving the abduction of Dinah by Shechem and in retaliation Shimon and Levi killing not only the kidnappers but all the male residents of the city as well. There are various opinions that explain what the rationale of Shimon and Levi was in committing these acts.

The Rambam says that it was because all of the inhabitants of the city knew that Shechem kidnapped Dinah and they did not bring him to justice. By law they were deemed just as guilty as if they had carried out the crime themselves and was therefore deserving of the death penalty. Nachmanides disagrees with the Rambam and counter argues that if everyone in the whole city was guilty and deserved the death penalty, why then did Yaakov either not give the order or kill them himself or more importantly disapprove of Shimon and Levi's actions if all they did what was to carry out Hashem's word to the letter of the law? There must be another reason why all the inhabitants deserved to die.

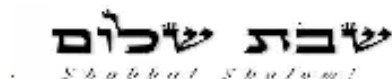
Nachmanides suggests the reason why was because the whole city were involved in idolatry and conducting immoral relations with each other which also deserved the death penalty. However Yaakov believed that their punishment for these actions was not down to Shimon and Levi to carry out. When Yaakov initially heard all of his sons telling Shechem and his father to circumcise the entire city's populace, he did not object because he thought that they would only use this ploy to rescue his daughter, their sister Dinah and then leave. The fact Shimon and Levi intended to take further action. This Yaakov did condemn because he knew that they did not kill them for reasons stated above, but rather in retaliation for what happened to Dinah out of anger and not because it was the correct thing to do.

Despite Yaakov's condemnation of Shimon and Levi's anger, Yaakov nonetheless recognized that such passion can also be channeled in a positive direction. Shimon and Levi were the only two of his sons who showed a striking amount of desire and devotion by replying to their father, "Should we let our sister be treated as a whore and do nothing?" Since only Shimon and Levi put their lives on the line for the sake of their sister and displayed their passion and energy by doing so, Yaakov saw them as characters who could now utilize these qualities positively, as they had an innate ability for self-sacrifice for Hashem and his Torah. Shimon and Levi, and by extension their descendants as well, would not be indifferent or apathetic to a lack of Torah education or observance, and would immediately burn with positive indignation which they would not only use to remedy and rectify the situation but enhance Torah learning and the performance of mitzvot to the nth degree.

As we see later on in the Torah the tribe of Levi especially, fulfilled Yaakov's wishes and blessings bestowed upon them. Levi emerged as a spiritual champion not only for producing the greatest ever Navi (Prophet) who ever lived, Moshe and his brother Aron who became the Kohen Gadol but despite the pressure of following the other tribes they remained steadfast, and loyal to Hashem by abstaining away from the sin of the Heter Eigel 'Golden Calf'.

Levi's passion was focused on spirituality within the framework of the Torah. By contrast, from the little we know in the rest of the Tanach about the tribe of Shimon's behavior, we instead find an undirected passion, which at times worked against the Torah and what it stood for, as in the notable case of Zimri, the prince of the tribe of Shimon, who engaged in inappropriate sexual behavior (Bamidbar chapter 25) and had to be made an example of by Pinchas.

With Hashem's help, May we live our daily lives like the tribe of Levi and strive to channel our abilities as positively as we can.



Compiled, Designed & Written by Jeremy Symons



Experience the
MAGIC of CHANUKAH

with
*Rabbi
Geoffrey Shisler*

Join us, on the last night of
Chanukah
for an

Evening of Magic and Song

with our ever popular guest artist

Rabbi Geoffrey Shisler

WHEN

Sunday 13th December 2015

WHERE

Kenton Synagogue, Shaftesbury Ave.
HA3 0RD

TIME

Candle Lighting	7.00pm
Dinner	7.15pm
Entertainment	8.15pm

TICKETS £15

CONTACT 020 8907 5959

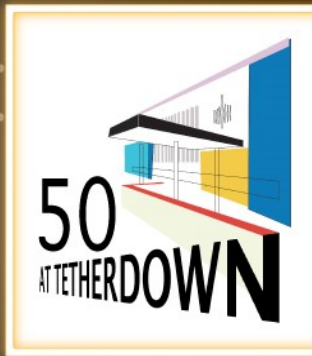
admin@kentonsynagogue.co.uk



**Happy
Chanukah**



► MUSWELL HILL SYNAGOGUE PRESENTS ◀



CHANUKAH ON THE HILL

SAT 12 / 12 / 2015
7.30 - 10.30 PM

**Join our wonderful 50th
Anniversary celebrations of
our Tetherdown home.**

Enjoy a 'Salt beef supper'* with
entertainment and magic from **Dave
Schneider** and **Joe Raine**, a wonderful
selection of music from **Jonah and
the Wailers**, **Simone Snyder & Shirli
Gilbert** and of course our resident
pianist **Danny Kuperberg**.

A night not to be missed!

Tickets & Booking

Ticket price £25

Bookings can be made online at
**[https://myus.theus.org.uk/events/
31078/chanukah-on-the-hill/](https://myus.theus.org.uk/events/31078/chanukah-on-the-hill/)**

Tickets are on sale now and will be available,
on a first come first served basis.

*Vegetarian meal available on request
at time of booking.



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CHIEF RABBI

CENTRE for
RABBINIC
EXCELLENCE

*This event is supported by the Chief
Rabbi's Centre for Rabbinic Excellence.*

MUSWELL HILL
SYNAGOGUE

“Muswell Hill Synagogue’s building in Tetherdown was consecrated on 12 September 1965 and we are celebrating this 50th Anniversary on the evening of Saturday, 12 December. Details are above and we would love it if any ex-members of MHS would like to join us. Tickets can be booked through the US website (link in the flyer) or by calling the Shul Office on 020 8883 5925.”

Jo Cowan, Administrator, Muswell Hill Synagogue