

19th Iyar 5768/24th May 2008

Minister: Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld

Emeritus Chazan: Rev. Moshe Dubiner

**Parshat Bechukotai—Chazak**

	Hertz	Cohen	Stone	Gutnick		Shabbat	8.43pm
Sedra	542	777	708	826		Havdalah	9.59pm
Haftarah	551	789	1179	1443		(Shabbat ends)	

**Charity Begins with You**

At some time or another, each of us encounters the homeless and the poor asking for money. We may offer someone change or a note or we might not. But what do we say? Where do we look? How do we think about the person before us? Is our tone of voice perfunctory? Do we seek to end the encounter as quickly as possible? Or do we speak with kindness, offering hope and preserving the others dignity?

Treating those in need with dignity and honour is a universal obligation in Judaism. In Pirkei Avot it says. "Let your neighbour's honour be as dear to you as your own"

And this can be a huge a challenge. When you help another, especially financially, there is a risk of starting to feel superior. It can be hard to look someone in the eye when they are at the lowest.

When you are at your lowest, being treated with respect kindness and love can be the most powerful gift.

You can walk around claiming to be a good person but unless you feel it inside, you're not really there.

Rabbi Solomon ben Meir HaLevi of Karlin said that it is not enough to stand above a person in need and reach out a helping hand. You must go down to where the person is, down into the mud and filth. Then take hold of him or her with strong hands and pull both of you into the light. Standing by the person's side, now also covered in mud, we not only ease his or her financial situation, but also help restore their dignity and self worth.

This commandment is also proactive, when we see someone slipping financially, we should catch him or her before the fall is complete.

Rashi said, "Do not leave him alone so that he descend and fall, for it will be hard to raise him up. Rather support him from the time his hand slips". As the sages explain it takes one person to support before it falls but after it falls even five people may not be able to lift it.

Maimonides says that the highest form of charity is to help someone in need to become self sufficient.

Tzedakah is not only helping people financially, it's also making them feels good. Sometimes giving an attentive ear or a warm smile is more important than money.

Every person has unique needs and it is our obligation to help each one accordingly.

The Talmud asks why Adam was created alone. The answer we are told is "So that every person should say. The entire world was created just for me."

This is recognition that everything including the needs of every other human being was created for you. We are all caretakers of the world responsible to deal with the problems.

Everything on earth, problems as well as beauty, offers an opportunity for us to connect and to grow. Every person you encounter is there because you need them at that time and not as it often appears..... the other way around.

Shabbat Shalom BEVERLY

## Announcements

**Kiddush Sponsor**

Kiddush in the Bloomstein Hall is given in honour of Seymour Freed, a much respected member of our congregation and we wish him a Refuah Sheleimah.

**Breakfast Sponsor**

Breakfasts this week are sponsored by Steven & Carol Truman to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Steven's mother Anita Truman z"l

**Birth Announcement**

Mazal Tov to Charlotte & Grant Lipton on the birth of a son and to Ruth & Stuart Lipton on the birth of a grandson

**Birthdays—Mazal Tov to:**

George Goldberg	Simon Buchler
Jessica Truman	Debbie Jaque
Amanda Ronson	Mark Mishon
Francoise Winton	Lynda Rapport
Stuart Creggy	Gillian Fenner
Gerald Ronson	Melvin Freedman
George Rothschild	Janine Ingram
Phyllis Howard	Reina Rudd

**Wedding Anniversaries—Mazal Tov to:**

Annabelle & Mark Sorrell  
Jane & David Kaye  
Jocille & Paul Cohen

**Refuah Sheleimah**

Seymour Freed	Shmuel Zeev Sara Rifka
B.A	Baruch Pinchas ben Zissel
Gerald Bloomberg	Yoseph ben Devorah
Jack Winsor	Yaacov ben Miriam Chaya
Alma Djanogly	Alma Shulamit bat Tovah
Ann Zahl	Channa bat Elisheva
Freida Handelsman	Faiga Rachel bat Freida
Sheila Tuchmann	Simchah bat Gala Girj

**Dedication Last week by the Chief Rabbi**

Our thanks to Sidney, Howard and Stuart Murray for their generous donation to the Shul and for the drapes that were presented in memory of their wife and mother Blanche Murray z"l.

*Please note the the  
Synagogue Office will be closed this  
Sunday and Monday, 25th & 26th May 2008*

## Diary Notes

No early morning Mishnah Berurah Shiur this week

### Friday 23rd May—Lag B'Omer

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Haftarah Shiur by Ervin Landau  
7.00pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat

### Shabbat 24th May

- 8.45 am Shiur with Ervin Landau  
9.15am Shacharit  
8.45 pm Mincha, followed by Seudah Shlishit & D'var Torah by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld  
9.59 pm Maariv & Havdalah

### Sunday 25th May

- 8.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and Thought for the Day by Aron Freedman

**Half Term** Cheder Age 4—12 years  
Contact Debra Corney 07967 702 251  
Or email [cheder.marblearch@gmail.com](mailto:cheder.marblearch@gmail.com)

### Monday 26th May—Bank Holiday

- 8.30 am Shacharit followed by Breakfast & D'var Torah by Michael Milston  
No Shiur for Ladies. Restarts 2nd June

### Tuesday 27th May

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Shiur by Rabbi Yosef Vogel  
7.30pm EGM followed by AGM

### Wednesday 28th May

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and Parsha Shiur by Ervin Landau

### Thursday 29th May

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & D'var Torah by Bernard Silver  
8.00 pm Monthly Shiur in French for singles with Rav Yehia Benchetrit *Le Coeur: Centre de l'Homme*

### Friday 30th May

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Haftarah Shiur by Ervin Landau

Mincha & Maariv through the week  
Sun 25th May—Thursday 29th May 7.15pm

### Security Rota

Joseph Gordon. Sam Mintz. Albere Rouach

### Our Rabbi

You can contact Rabbi Lionel & Natalie Rosenfeld at [rabbilr@marblearch.org.uk](mailto:rabbilr@marblearch.org.uk)  
Phone: 020 7535 0458 mob: 07811202244

Our Website: [www.marblearch.org.uk](http://www.marblearch.org.uk)

### Yadgaroff Library

The Yadgaroff Library is open every day for those wishing to study or browse the fine selection of books.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Extraordinary General Meeting/Annual General Meeting - Tuesday 27th May

An EGM will be held on Tuesday 27th May at 7.30pm, followed by the AGM at 8.00pm.

### **WESTERN MARBLE ARCH ELECTIONS ON TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008**

This month the elections for President and Vice President of our synagogue will be held. Both posts are being contested and we are pleased that there is such interest in serving our community.

This may be a close election and your vote may make a difference. Please make every effort to attend the AGM or **at the very least come to** the Synagogue to place your vote

The voting will take place at the synagogue between:

**7:30am – 10:30am and 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

**If you have any questions or need assistance in getting to the synagogue in order to cast your vote, please call the office: 020 7723 9333.**

### **YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT PLEASE USE IT**

### Monday 2nd June—Jerusalem Day

Join us for a special bumper festive breakfast immediately after Shacharit. Everyone welcome

### Children's Services to commence!

We are pleased to announce that weekly children's services will be held, commencing on Shabbat 7th June at 10.30am, supervised by Meryl Cohen. Also please note that on 10th June, Second Day Shavuot, there will be a Yom Tov Children's Service, followed by a baby blessing on the Bimah for all children born in the last 2 years and an ice cream party. We look forward to seeing your children and/or grandchildren at these services.

### Sunday 8th June Consecration

The consecration of the memorial stone of Joseph Goldberg z"l will take place on Sunday 8th June at 12 noon at Willesden.

### TIKUN LEIL SHAVUOT SUNDAY EVENING 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

Mincha & Ma'ariv at 8.00pm followed by Traditional Shavuot Supper Divrei Torah interspersed with plenty of refreshments, tea and coffee until 11.30pm. You are invited to remain with us from midnight to join in the learning until Shacharit at 2.45am. Please contact the synagogue office on 020 7723 9333 or email us on [maureen@marblearch.org.uk](mailto:maureen@marblearch.org.uk) to book for supper Cost: Members £22.50, Non-members £25.00, Students £10.00

### Monday 16th June Film Evening 7.45pm

The film 'Judith' will be screened, introduced by its producer Kurt Unger. You are all welcome

### Polite Request

May we ask that for all future events, to avoid embarrassment to members and office staff, payment preferably be made in advance of any function. Any payment being made on the evening should be in a sealed envelope, marked with the payees name. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.