

16th Tammuz 5768/19th July 2008

Minister: Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld

Emeritus Chazan: Rev. Moshe Dubiner

**Parshat Pinchas**

Hertz Cohen Stone Gutnick

Sedra 686 932 876 1040  
Haftarah 699 951 1190 1460



Shabbat 8.54pm  
Havdalah 10.08pm  
(Shabbat ends)

***Not a Job for a Nice Jewish Boy from North West London!***  
by **Stuart Caplan**

Following on from the series of articles in 'The Arch' marking the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Yom Kippur war, I would like to share some thoughts with you all.

At that time I was in a unit which was part of the artillery regiment. Our job was to go ahead and seek out enemy targets (later it became known as Sayeret Totchanim—Artillery Scouts), We were based in the southern sector of the Golan, south of Queneitra near to the main IDF base at Nafah, our defence being the responsibility of the Barak Brigade, but more of that later.

The Syrians did succeed in breaking through our defences. For two days we fought hard and bloody battles in an attempt to halt the attack. On Sunday afternoon, Syrian tanks reached the area of Nafah. The actual base was practically deserted apart from me and a small group of forces trying to get the brigade command bunker back in working order. Our small group did not succeed in holding back the massive enemy force.

The battle for Nafah itself on that Sunday, the day after the initial attack on Yom Kippur, was brutal in the extreme and hand to hand and room to room fighting occurred in some areas including the area in and around the command bunker where the Syrians had broken through the perimeter. The brigade commander knew that if the Syrians captured Nafah, not only would the largest army base in the Golan Heights have fallen, but also his forces would be encircled by the enemy. He immediately transmitted an order to the 5 tanks in his immediate vicinity to advance and come to the aid of Nafah. The brigade commander, his deputy and the brigade operations officer were killed in the breakthrough attempt. A single tank, commanded by "Zvika" (Zvi) Greengold who had previously fought alone on the defence line, and who had succeeded in knocking out a number of Syrian tanks, outflanked the Syrians, penetrated the camp, ran amok between the buildings firing its machine gun in every direction, until the last of the Syrian infantry were either killed or retreated.

During this period the Barak Brigade suffered heavy losses, to the point that it was almost wiped out. However, it rose from the ashes to become the IDF's spearhead into the salient which threatened Damascus. It was also the last IDF unit to leave the Syria after the cease fire.

A friend of mine was based in the Sinai on the Suez Canal. His position was overrun by the Egyptians, but with his comrades in similarly desperate hand to hand and room to room combat managed to hold out. During the course of the fighting he was badly wounded by both fragmentation and phosphorous grenades. We often compare notes, and he mocks me as the situation in the north was turned around within 3 days of the initial Syrian attack, and so he thinks that I had an easy time of it, ending up having a 'holiday' in Syria. Last week I received an email from him, part of which read:

"I just got out of an 8 day stay in Watford General Hospital. When I returned from Israel on the 2nd July, I felt pain in my stomach. I had to go to A&E and after 3 days of tests, they opened me up and found a small piece of shrapnel from the Yom Kippur war which damaged my appendix and bowel. It has been taken out together with the whole appendix and lining of the bowl and I am now resting at home for a month."

To finish on a positive note, during the defence of Nafah I was taking cover in an abandoned 'hull down' tank position when through the fire a 'Chabadnik' from the Military Rabbinate crashed in. "Cake?" he screamed (we were all nearly deaf from the noise of battle) and tossed me a box containing a slab of cake, he then disappeared off into who knows what. I hope that he made it out of there and is now happily ensconced in Brooklyn with a wife and the requisite number of children and grandchildren!

Although the war is long over it is still claiming victims. As for me? I still get flashbacks and it took many years for the nightmares to stop. I still see the guys I knew who are no longer with us. I can't remember some of their names, but their faces are still fresh in my mind. Whatever happens they are frozen in time ~ for me, they will always be 20 years old. So for some of us it's not over yet

Shabbat Shalom **Stuart Caplan**

**Next Shabbat - Matot**

25th—26th July 2008

Commences 8.45pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 7.00pm

## Announcements

### Kiddush Sponsor

Kiddush this week in the Bloomstein Hall is sponsored by the Honorary Officers and Board of Management in honour of Peggy Davis a highly respected member of Western Marble Arch who has given many years of communal service.

### Breakfast Sponsor

Breakfasts this week are kindly sponsored by John Slade to commemorate the Yahrzeit of his father Edward Slade z"l

### Birth Announcement

Mazal Tov to Miriam & Garry Khasidy and family on the birth of a daughter.

### Birthdays—Mazal Tov to:

Daniel Feldman	Olivia Lindsay
Mark Pasha	Julia Hanbury
Daniella Lipton	Joanne Lindsay
Simone Davidson	Albere Rouach
Miriam Lyons	Norma Midgen
Georgina Spencer	Wendy Kremen
Geoffrey Lewis	Angela Morrison
Paul Cohen	Geoffrey Waters
Sheilagh Ross	Leonard Carson
Sonia Sanitt	Edna Kaye
Maurice Shore	Sybil Fischelis
Livia Sacks	Jessie Simon

### Wedding Anniversaries—Mazal Tov to:

Sheilagh & Tony Ross  
Wendy & Henry Brecher

### Refuah Shelemah

Seymour Freed	Shmuel Zeev ben Sara Rivka
B.A	Baruch Pinchas ben Zissel
Becky Cohanim	Rivka bat Yocheved
Alma Djanogly	Alma Shulamit bat Tovah
Sheila Tuchmann	Simchah bat Gala Girji
Frula Shear	Rafaella Chana bat Esther

## Diary Notes

**Rabbi Rosenfeld gives a Mishnah Berurah Shiur weekdays  
Mon—Fri mornings at 7.00am before Shacharit**

### Friday 18th July

7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Haftarah Shiur by Ervin Landau  
7.15pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat and D'var Torah

### Shabbat 19th July

8.45 am Shiur with Ervin Landau  
9.15 am Shacharit  
11.00am Children's Service in the Bridal Suite with Meryl Cohen  
After Kiddush There will be a Luncheon Club  
9.00 pm Mincha, followed by Seudah Shlishit & D'var Torah  
10.08 pm Maariv & Havdalah

### Sunday 20th July—Fast of Tammuz

**2.19 am Fast begins**  
8.30 am Shacharit  
1.30 pm First Mincha  
7.15pm Second Mincha (and Maariv)  
**10.00 pm Fast ends**

### Monday 21st July

7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & D'var Torah by Michael Milston  
10.30 am Rabbi Rosenfeld's Parsha Shiur for Ladies

### Tuesday 22nd July

7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Shiur by Rabbi Yosef Vogel

### Wednesday 23rd July

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

### Thursday 24th July

7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & D'var Torah by Bernard Silver

### Friday 25th July

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

**Mincha & Maariv through the week  
Sun 20th - Thurs 24th July 7.15pm**

### Security Rota

Martin Goldstein. David Harouni

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### School Visit

We had a very successful visit from 150 schoolboys from Southend High. They were extremely well behaved, polite and asked some very intelligent questions. Our thanks to Judge Black and Jennie Raperport for stepping in at such short notice to talk to the boys. They were so impressed with their 90 minutes; they hope to bring another class next year."

### Children's Services

Children's services commence at 11.00am in the Bridal Suite, supervised by Meryl Cohen. We look forward to seeing your children and/or grandchildren at these services.

### Shanah Tovah Magazine

This year's Shanah Tova Magazine is being compiled by Howard Richenberg, which with your help we hope will be an even bigger success than last year. Many members of the congregation use the Magazine to send New Year Greetings and as the brochure has become so important, please ensure that you are included in this worthwhile cause.

Please send or email your advert today to the Synagogue Office.

Please send us your articles or letters that you wish to be considered for publication in the brochure

### Haftarah

Would anyone wishing to read the Haftarah on Shabbat, eg on the anniversary of their Bar Mitzvah, to mark a special occasion or for any other reason, please contact the Honorary Officers as we wish to involve as many people as possible

### Sponsoring an Event

If you are celebrating a Simchah or commemorating a family Yahrzeit or if you are just feeling generous please consider contacting the office and sponsoring a Shabbat Morning Kiddush, the Morning Minyan breakfasts or the weekly Newsletter.

### Yadgaroff Library

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

### Our Rabbi

You can contact Rabbi Lionel & Natalie Rosenfeld at rabbi@marblearch.org.uk  
Phone: 020 7535 0458 mob: 07811202244

### Our Website:

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