



12 December 2015 | 30 Kislev 5776

CONDOLENCES *May G-d comfort you among the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.*

The family of the late **Julie Franks**
The family of the late **Miriam Litman**

Yahrzeits *Rabbi Bar and the whole community wish the following members, Long Life.*

(Yahrzeits begin the night before the date below)

Shabbat – 12 December / 30 Kislev Mrs Allison Lester, Mr Eric Harris, Mrs Gertrude Essex, Mr Murray Miller, Mrs Sheila Schwartz, Mrs Sandra Royston
Sunday – 13 December / 1 Tevet Dr Arnold Azulay, Mrs Ann Wine
Monday – 14 December / 2 Tevet Mr Robert Abrahams, Mr Stephen Burstin, Miss Debbie Freeman, Mrs Moira Myers, Mrs Lilian Stender, Mr Simon Luton, Mr Melvyn Peters, Mr Harvey Sperber, Mr Ray Waterman
Tuesday – 15 December / 3 Tevet Mrs Betty Lesley, Mrs Rita Cabb, Mrs Marion Jones, Mr Allan Goldstein, Mrs Minn Rose, Mr Zvi Klemer, Mr Stanley Rubins, Mrs Jeanette Cohen, Mrs Josephine Muslin
Wednesday – 16 December / 4 Tevet Mrs Betty Young, Ms Janet Gershlick, Mrs Pat David, Mrs Netta Harper, Mr Terry Leigh
Thursday – 17 December / 5 Tevet Mr Jeffrey Greenstein
Friday – 18 December / 6 Tevet Mrs Terrie Levene, Mr Neville Peters, Mr Geoffrey Struminger

Saying Kaddish in Shul? Please ensure you bring at least two relatives or friends to help with the Minyan.

VISITING THE SICK If you know anyone who would like a hospital or home visit from Rabbi Bar or a member of the *Community Care Committee*, please email swhfc@gmail.com or leonardshulton@live.com, call Janice 07752874065 or Shul Office 01702 344900.

REGULAR EVENTS AT SWHC

SEED Monday 21 st Dec 8:45pm in Beit Hamidrash	J.A.C.S. Wednesdays Call Allan Goldstein 01268 771978 for more info	Monday Club - Shul Hall Call Maurice on 01702 351845
Cemetery Opening Times Winter: Sunday - Friday 10am - 3pm GMT Summer: Sunday - Friday 10am - 4pm BST	connect@southend Thursdays, Talmud Torah Contact Chris Sternshine 01702 334655 csternshine@jcare.org	Bereavement Support Group Monday 21 st Dec 8pm End of Year Social At the home Janice Steel Call Janice on 07752 874065
Little Latkes Baby & Toddler Group Tuesdays 10:30 – 12:00 Call Karen on 07887 847059	Pop-In – Talmud Torah Tuesday 15 th Dec 2pm - 4pm Email Janice swhfc@gmail.com	Cheder & SJYC Tuesdays / Thursdays southendyouth@outlook.com or call Barry 07876 685826

Rabbi Binyamin Bar
Rabbi

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*This week's Newsletter is kindly sponsored by **Mirella & Philip Walters** in celebration of their daughter, **Montine's**, engagement to **Alex Rafalowicz**.
Mazel Tov!*



ראש חודש

ROSH CHODESH TEVET

Shabbat & Sunday 12th & 13th Dec
New Moon Friday 11th Dec 7:19am

SHABBAT MIKETZ
CHANUKAH 6 Rosh Chodesh

FRIDAY NIGHT

Mincha / Kabbalat Shabbat **3:20pm**
This will enable the lighting of the Chanukah Candles which must be lit in the Shul before the onset of Shabbat which begins at 3:29pm

SHABBAT (Rosh Chodesh) MORNING

Shacharit **9:15am**
Children's Service **11:00am**
Kiddush after the Service

Mincha **Immediately following the Morning Kiddush**

Shabbat ends **4:48pm**
Ma'ariv **5:15pm**

WEEKDAY SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAY (2nd Day Rosh Chodesh)
7th Day Chanukah

Shacharit **8:30am**
Ma'ariv **6:00pm**

MONDAY 8th Day Chanukah – THURSDAY

Shacharit **8:00am**
Ma'ariv **8:00pm**

NEXT FRIDAY

Shacharit **8:00am**
Shabbat commences **3:30pm**
Mincha / Kabbalat Shabbat **3:30pm**

Hallel for Chanukah & Rosh Chodesh	Sacks Singers page 618
Psalm 104 for Rosh Chodesh	Sacks Singers page 154
Psalm 30 for Chanukah	Sacks Singers page 36
Torah Reading-1 st 6 Aliyot Miketz	Rabbi Bar Soncino page 252
Rosh Chodesh	Pinchas Soncino page 944 v 9-15
Maftir Shabbat Chanukah Day 6	Naso Soncino page 830 v 42-47
Haftorah Zechariah 2;14-4;7	Anthony Larholt Soncino page 857-859
Musaf – Atah Yatzartah	Sacks Singers page 440
Anim Zemiroth	Louis-Henri Shapiro Sacks Singers page 458

If you would like to repeat your Barmitzvah Haftorah, please contact the Gabbaim.

CHANUKAH GELT *Thoughts on the Parasha.*

Question:

Where is the origin of giving gifts during Chanukah? Is it just an imitation of what everyone else is doing at this time of year? Are Chanukah gifts Jewish?

Answer:

The original Jewish custom is to give “Chanukah gelt” (money) rather than presents. There are a number of reasons given for this practice:

- 1) The Talmud says that the Chanukah lights are sacred and may not be used for any other purpose. The example given there is that one may not count money by the candlelight. Giving out Chanukah money and not counting it near the menorah is a way to remember this rule.
- 2) The Law is that if a poor man does not have enough money to purchase both Chanukah candles and kiddush wine, Chanukah lights take precedence because they serve to publicize the miracle. The widespread custom of giving Chanukah gelt enabled the poor to get the money they needed for candles without feeling shame.
- 3) The word Chanukah is the same Hebrew root as chinuch, “education.” The occupying Greek forces were determined to force Hellenism upon the Jewish population, at the expense of the ideals and commandments of the holy Torah. Unfortunately, they were quite successful in their endeavor. After the Greeks were defeated, it was necessary to re-educate the Jews—to reintroduce a large part of the population to Torah values. Appropriately, during Chanukah it is customary to give gelt to children as a reward for Torah study.
- 4) In his record of the Chanukah story, Maimonides writes: “The Greeks laid their hands upon the possessions of Israel.” The Greeks invaded the possessions of Israel in the same spirit in which they defiled the oil in the Holy Temple. They did not destroy the oil; they defiled it. They did not rob the Jewish people; they attempted to infuse their possessions with Greek ideals, so that they be used for egotistical and ungodly purposes, rather than for holy pursuits. Chanukah gelt celebrates the freedom to channel material wealth toward spiritual ends.

So to answer the question, it is true that the practice of giving gifts on Chanukah has been popularized due to Chanukah’s proximity to the Christian holiday season. As such, to maintain the original Jewish tradition, we should make a point to give Chanukah gelt as well. I am sure our children will not that mind that custom!

Shabbat Shalom, Chanukah sameach!

Rabbi Binyamin Bar

WHAT’S ON AT SWHC

THIS SHABBAT | Special Children’s Service

Come along to a very special Chanukah children’s service with dreidel games, songs, gelt and more...

Public Menorah Lighting at Cliffs Pavilion

Nightly sponsors with donuts!

Friday 11th December, 3pm (Before Shabbat)

Saturday 12th December, 6pm |

Children & Youth Chanukah Party

Sunday 13th December, 7.30pm | followed by

Gala Night Celebration in the Shul with

Donuts & Dignitaries

The Chanukah Buzz | Motzie Shabbat 12th December, 6:30pm – 9pm

Youth Chanukah Party. Food, Live DJ, Arts & Crafts. See poster in Shul. Tickets from Barry Jacobs southendyouth@outlook.com 07876 685826.

Next Shabbat 19th December

The Kiddush (Cholent) next week will be generously sponsored by Rosalyn & Derek Silverstone as they celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversary. Mazeltov!

AID Society Bridge | Thorpe Bay Bridge Club

20th Dec & 10th Jan. Call Geoff Cohen 339601 or Jan Linden 343289

Holocaust Memorial Day | Wednesday 27th January

Civic Centre. More details to follow.

Jewish Museum London | Exhibition “Blood” – til 28th February 2016

Email admin@jewishmuseum.org.uk for more information.

NOTICES

Security and CST Volunteers In light of the current situation we are urgently looking to recruit members of the community to join our Security Team. No experience necessary, full training given. Your community needs YOU! Please contact Kevin on 07855 257640.

The Shop | Opening Hours Sunday, 9.30am-11.30am Thursday, 10.00am – 4:30pm
Friday, 9.00am – 12:30pm Monday, 12noon – 3pm (Cash only)
Email alanmarkovitch@yahoo.co.uk or leave a message on 07956 597271.

Celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary? Why not celebrate in Shul, honour your relatives and friends and sponsor the Newsletter and/or Kiddush? Please contact the Shul Office to confirm availability, to book a Kiddush, contact **Lisa Berg on 07760 141162.**

