



**Shabbat, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2019 / 11<sup>th</sup> Cheshvan 5780**

**Lech Lecha**

**Service Times:**

Friday night service	4.05 pm
Shacharit	9.15 am
Mincha follows kiddush	
Shabbat Ends	5.10 pm
Ma'ariv	5.30 pm
Next Friday: Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat takes place at 3.55 pm ( <b>candle lighting before 3.56 pm</b> )	

We wish a hearty mazal tov to **Rosie Preston** on her **Bat Chayil** and to **Barry Freeder** on the occasion of his **Auf Ruf** and sincere mazal tov wishes to the Preston and Freeder families. Both families invite the congregation to join them for kiddush in the Mark Lewis Hall after the service to celebrate their simchas.

After Shacharit tomorrow morning, everyone is invited to our monthly smoked salmon and bagel breakfast, replete with all the usual gastronomic delights. Shacharit begins at **8.15am**, this month's breakfast has been kindly sponsored by Maurice Mintz.



**We wish mazal tov to the following members:** Rita & Jeffrey Wiseman on their Golden Wedding Anniversary; Arnold Abrahams, Isabella Chaplin, Liam Vernon and Warren Vickers on their respective birthdays.

Tickets are now on sale for **The Super Supper Quiz** on **Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> December** tickets are £22 per person; please call the Shul office 020 8629 2780 to book your place.

This year's **AJEX** parade takes place on **Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> November** at 2.30pm at the Cenotaph in Whitehall. You need to have registered to be able to march; for more details check the noticeboards or the weekly email. The brunch is now fully booked.

**Torah Reading**

Sedra Synopsis

**Rabbi Steven Dansky**

Leyning: Lech Lecha

Sefer Bereishis: 12:1-17:27

**Rabbi Steven Dansky**

Artscroll p 54, Cohen/Soncino p 60, Hertz p 45

Haftorah: Isaiah: 40:27-41:16

**Martin Bloomberg**

Artscroll p 1133, Cohen/Soncino p 82, Hertz p 60

If you would like to mark a birthday or Simcha, or want to commemorate a Yahrzeit, this can be done by sponsoring Cranbrook News. In the forthcoming weeks, there are many dates that are available.

The cost of sponsoring Cranbrook News is £15, or a Sunday breakfast is £45.

Please call the shul office for more information.

**Children's Service:** 10.50am

**Weekday Services in the Freda Schaller Beit Hamidrash**

Shacharit: Sunday & Public Holidays – 8.15am; Monday & Thursday – 6.50am;  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday – 7am.

Rosh Chodesh Shacharit: Monday to Friday – 6.40am; Sunday – 8am

Ma'ariv: 7.30pm – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.

Sunday Breakfasts: tomorrow; 8<sup>th</sup> December and 29<sup>th</sup> December (Sponsorship is available).

**Dates for the Diary**

**November**

Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Bagel Breakfast</i>
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> @ 10am	<i>Advanced Ladies Shiur</i>
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> @ 8pm	<i>"The Stories you thought you knew"</i>
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> @ 6.30pm	<i>Men's Talmud Shiur</i>
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	<i>United Synagogue Women's Quiz</i>
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Mitzvah Day</i>
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	<i>AJEX Parade</i>
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Ladies Rosh Chodesh - Card Making</i>
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> @ 10am	<i>Advanced Ladies Shiur</i>
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> @ 2pm	<i>"The Stories you thought you knew"</i>
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> @ 6.30pm	<i>Men's Talmud Shiur</i>
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> @ 10am	<i>Advanced Ladies Shiur</i>
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> @ 8pm	<i>"The Stories you thought you knew"</i>
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Rosh Chodesh Kislev</i>
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> @ 6.30pm	<i>Men's Talmud Shiur</i>
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Rosh Chodesh Kislev</i>

**December**

Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> @ 10am	<i>Advanced Ladies Shiur</i>
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> @ 2pm	<i>"The Stories you thought you knew"</i>
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> @ 6.30pm	<i>Men's Talmud Shiur</i>
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Bagel Breakfast</i>



**We wish Long Life to everyone who is observing a Yahrzeit this week:**

Cissie Ackerman, Audrey Allen, Millie Allen, Sandra Barnett, Frances Baum, Melanie Bernstein, Alan Bernstein, Sonia Black, Sheila Brand, Renee Bravo, Bernard Chaplin, Ivor Clements, Doreen Cohen, Marian Conway, Herman De Leeuw, Susan Faber, Julian Gold, Ruth Gold, Lionel Goldberg, Elka Golding, Barbara Goldman, Joseph Gordon, Eunice Green, Saul Green, Shelley Hart, Norma Hart, Michael Hart, Rowland John, Sharon Kantor, Leslie Kingsley, Lillian Kirsch, Rita Lebetkin, Alan Levene, Alma Levene, Michael Levy, Stanley Levy, Lilian Levy, Alan Lipman, Anthony Mitchell, Angela Morris, Dennis Moss, Sandra Pearman, Ida Pieters, Jeffrey Pinkus, Irene Placks, Joyce Rabin, Sarah Roat, Frances Robin, Lee Russell, Patricia Russell, Jacqueline Samuel, Jean Sanett, Tracey Sanett, Victor Shafier, Leah Shamplin, Simon Shaw, Stephen Shelton, Linda Sherman, Laura Shone, Julian Silver, Lorraine Silver, Estelle Silver, Angela Simmons, Miriam Stein, Doreen Wajchendler, Susan Wells, Melvyn Windsor and Gina Winton.

### Cranbrook Synagogue Education Events

**All events must be pre-booked.** Contact the Shul office on 020 8629 2780

13<sup>th</sup> November (Wed)

"The Stories you thought you knew" Repeat of 6th – 8pm @ Danský Home

17<sup>th</sup> November (Sun) Mitzvah Day

20<sup>th</sup> November (Wed)

"The Stories you thought you knew"

Discover the stories of the Bible in a completely new and interactive way! This course will change your perspective on these "stories" for life!

2pm – 3.15pm: @ Danský Home (ladies & gentlemen both welcome)

### **Blue Tzedakah Boxes**

We would like to encourage more people to take one of the **Shul Tzedakah** boxes; they will be collected every six months.

It is a mitzvah to give tzedakah and every little helps both the Shul and our nominated charities.

A variety of charities will benefit from the money raised.

Please contact the Shul office on 020-8629 2780 or email: [admin@cranbrooksynagogue.org.uk](mailto:admin@cranbrooksynagogue.org.uk) for more details.

### **Forthcoming stone-settings**

<b>17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Alma Cassen</b>	Waltham Abbey	12 noon
Mother of Michael and Philip Cassen			
<b>8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Irene Isaacs</b>	Waltham Abbey	11am
Son Paul			
<b>30<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>David Brett</b>	Waltham Abbey	12 noon
Son of Allan & Lorraine Brett			

### **Mitzvah Day – Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> November**

Please do not forget to bring into the Shul office any small items of food: water, cereal bars, sweets, etc, for our Help the Homeless shelter in Ilford. We will be making up the parcels to distribute to the shelter in Ilford and need volunteers to pack.

**Mitzvah  
Day**

**17<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

### **US Annual Ladies Quiz:**

Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> November @ 7pm. Venue: St John's Wood shul, Grove End Road, tables of 10, £15 per head to include a light supper. Please contact Hilary Segall on 020-8551 5021 to make up a table (Just 2 more required!).

**Save the Date:** Melave Malka – Shabbat, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – 8pm – 10.30pm.

## News and Views

This week's parasha deals with the first of all Jews - Abraham. Abraham is referred to as an Ivri - someone who lived on the other side. Now this means not only that he lived on the other side, but that the way that he thought was so diametrically opposed to the rest of the world. He stood firm. The Midrash compares Abraham to a peddler, who while walking from town to town, finds an amazing granary filled with wheat. He sees the light switched on, but he can't for the life of him find the owner of the granary. Suddenly, the owner of the granary appears and says: "I am the owner of the granary".



Abraham is the peddler. He walks through the world - looking for answers. He is not satisfied with finding other people's answers. He wants to find his own answers. And he sees a world, a world so full of beauty and splendour that he can barely stand it. Such trees, such rivers and lakes, such a table mountain, such a vast ocean, and says, you know what, this place which has such treasures inside it, such organisation, such beauty **MUST** be owned by someone. He searches for truth. He strives for it, and he knows that he cannot find the truth from his birthplace, or from his friends. He is on own. He is independent, and he is driven to find the truth. God sees his determination, and eventually out comes the command - Go out for yourself - be yourself - find out your own answers, and your first answer is that I am the one who made all of this beauty in the world.

These are characteristics that stand with us as modern Jews to this very day. We are separate from the other nations. We always strive for truth in every single endeavour, whether in the arts, the sciences or in politics. We stand up for what we believe in, and we will not be budged.

Avraham's first command is Lech Lecha - go out for yourself. He is told to leave everything that he knows - his friends, his family, his business, even his father's house to go... who knows where - the land that God will show him in some future time. He is leaving everything that is good in his life - everything that makes him comfortable - his support for the Mesopotamian Bokke, his Aram Naharyim beer.. Yet Avraham is told Lech Lecha - go out for yourself, because it will be **for your benefit**. Avraham had everything that he could want. He was a man of 75 years old at the time. It was time to retire, it wasn't time to get up and start a whole new journey! How is leaving all of this to his benefit?



We are being taught here an important lesson. True growth doesn't happen when we follow what everyone else does. It doesn't happen when we are comfortable sitting on our couches, or watching the TV with a beer. It happens when we move outside our comfort zones. When we move outside what we are used to is when we realise what we are capable of.

When I was a kid, I never once spoke in public - I wasn't on the debate team, I didn't represent the school when it came to public speaking. Yet, here I am standing before you today. Growth comes from putting yourself in a new situation, because it is then that you find out what you are truly made of.

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