

**NEWSLETTER**

**of the**

***Bushey and District United Synagogue***

**no. 20**

***Rosh Hashanah 5736***

***September 1975***

E D I T O R I A L  
C O M M E N T

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are, without doubt, going to cause the honorary officers a headache: not only the chattering during the services, but also the seating situation. They are aware that there could be a seat famine but it can be alleviated with YOUR co-operation by seeing that members and their wives get priority. The children can sit on laps or stand for a while.

Although seating can be a problem it is hoped that Succot and Simchat Torah will also result in 'packed houses' particularly as this year they occur on Shabbatim and Sundays. May we, on behalf of all the congregation, wish Godfrey Kaye and Brian Silverman, their wives and families, heartiest mazeltov on their being our Chatanim this year.

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The Honorary Officers and the Board of Management take this opportunity of wishing all members, their families and friends a Happy and Peaceful New Year and an easy Fast.

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Ronald Cole                      Colin Fink

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Letter to the Editor.

Dear Sirs,

Jeff and I would like to offer our sincere thanks through the columns of the Newsletter to the many people who made our son David's Barmitzvah so memorable.

To Ronald Cole for the fantastic organisation in laying out the Synagogue on August 2nd; to Johnny Back for the wonderful way he spoke and sang the service and for the sincere speech to David during the Kiddush.

Also many thanks to David Shulman for his help and his special idea of utilizing the kindergarten cupboards - it certainly worked.

Our thanks to Barbara Kaye and all the fantastic helpers on the Ladies Guild who gave up their time during the week and who laid out a superb Kiddush in record time.

In fact, our deepest thanks to everyone for helping to make our first Simcha so truly memorable. It is something we as a family - including Grandparents and all our many friends - will never forget.

Perhaps now more people will move to OUR Bushey. See you all in Shul.

Yours very sincerely,

Myreen Matthey.

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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ:

1. What is the Hebrew date of Pesach?
2. Why do we celebrate Shavuoth.
3. Which is the 'odd man out' and why? Sheep, cod, pigeon and horse.
4. How many Laws in the Torah?
5. Who was the first King of Israel?
6. How many books in the Old Testament?
7. Who was Isaac's father?
8. How many years did the Israelites wander in the wilderness?
9. When is Havdalah said?
10. What is the 'girl's' barmitzvah called?

(See last page for answers)

## NEWS

### Debate:

On July 13th. in the Shul hall there was a combined debate with Pinner Synagogue's Focus Group. The motion was 'that intermarriage is primarily the fault of the parents'.

The small but attentive audience heard some excellent debating by the principal speakers. The motion was eventually defeated by a majority vote.

Perhaps this will be the fore-runner of more inter-synagogue functions.

### Car Scavenger Hunt and Disco:

On the 20th July the football club organised a very interesting and highly complicated car scavenger hunt. Although nobody received full marks the highest score was attained by Laurence Brass. The number of entrants although quite good could have been greater considering our membership.

The day was rounded off with an excellent disco which everybody enjoyed thoroughly.

### Talk and Discussion:

On the 24th July at the home of Ronald and Jenny Cole, Allan Conway gave a talk on Child Psychology. He quoted various tests that could be given to young children to see how they were developing. Some of the questions baffled the parents! A lively discussion followed and everyone left with the feeling that they would have liked even more information.

### 'Mr. & Mrs.' Evening:

On the 27th July Bushey's own version of the highly successful T.V. show, Mr. & Mrs. took place

in the Shul hall. Lots of fun was had and quite a few discoveries made!

### Barmitzvah:

A packed Synagogue was delighted on August 2nd. to hear the confident and able manner in which David Matthey performed his parshot, maftir and haftorah. As you will see from the letter from Mrs. Matthey, the organisation was truly superb and the manner in which everything was arranged made the day highly successful.

### Sponsored Walk:

Quite a few people will not have to be reminded that on August 10th. there was a sponsored walk in aid of synagogue funds. Their personal reminders are blistered feet. Needless to say, with little effort the maximum benefit could be derived and over £400 was raised.

We cannot mention the names of all the walkers but special reference must be made to the following:-

To Alison Epstein, Stuart Fink, Ashley Kaye and Janine Kaye, who all completed the 10 mile course;

To those two lovable 'bitches' Shelley Finkelstein and Malka Nash, who also walked the course and made no complaints;

To Marilyn Shone who pushed her push chair around the course;

and finally to the one man who had it superbly organised - Harvey Leigh - who got his wife Sherry to do the walk while he acted as a steward!

It was a pity that so few of the footballers took the opportunity to get fit for the new season by joining the sponsored walk. They could have also repaid the compliment, as so many others supported their car rally and disco.

F O R T H C O M I N G

E V E N T S

18th. October - On this Shabbat Steven Kramrisch will be celebrating his Barmitzvah. Sylvia and John Kramrisch request the pleasure of your company at a Kiddush following the service. The service commences at 10.00 a.m.

19th. October - On this Sunday at 8.00 p.m. at Knox Cottage, 4, Prowse Avenue, Bushey Heath, by kind permission of Judy and Johnny Back, the Bushey Israel rind are holding a Quiz Supper. The Quizmaster will be Allan Conway and the price of a ticket, which includes all refreshments, is £2.25 per person. This is exceptional value and is YOUR opportunity to help our brethern in Israel.

Phone Leon Mitchell, 950 5496 for tickets.

13th. December - The Synagogue Functions Committee have arranged the annual Dinner and Ball at the Royal Majestic Rooms, Willesden. Tickets £6.00 each are available from Harvey Burton, 950 4209. Your help will also be needed in obtaining Brochure space. Contact Lionel Finkelstein, 950 1988 or Henry Saunders, 950 4290. Barbara Kaye, will be pleased to receive your gifts for the Tombola.

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Heartiest mazeltov to

- Angela and Jeffrey Doctors on the birth of a daughter, Melanie
- Jackie and David Hornick on the birth of another daughter, Victoria, a sister for Samantha

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- Myreen and Jeff Matthey on the occasion of their son David's Barmitzvah
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- Joanne and Tony Oster on the occasion of the marriage of their daughter Sara to Tomas - August 24th.
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- Malcolm and Jenny Baum, Rachel and Spencer; Edmund and Louise Verrey, and Matthew; and Merton and Carol Zatman, Michael and Stephen, on their recent moves to new homes.
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Our wish for a speedy return to good health is extended to Ruth Beller, Freddie Grays and Mrs. Louis Jacobs who have been hospitalised recently.

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The Community bids a fond farewell to John and Sylvia Kramrisch, Steven, Gary and Paul, Celia Langley and Lawrence and Elaine Shaw, Alison, David and Granam, who have recently left Bushey.

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A warm welcome is extended to the following who have recently joined the Community. We hope your stay will be long, healthy and happy.

Kenneth and Susan Arfin  
Ralph and Debbie Berg  
Stewart and Michelle Bradley,  
and Scott  
Howard and Avril Davidson, Gail  
and Andrew  
Rosa Gotfraind  
Lawrence and Ruth Geller,  
Tanya and Guy  
John and Sally Needleman  
Samuel and Millie Leigh  
Howard and Monica Salter,  
Camilla and Nicholas  
Norman and Pearl Spurling

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Birthday Greetings to the following children:-

Spencer Baum	1st
Joanna Coleman	1st
Gary Fields	5th
Stuart Fink	9th

Simon Gold	7th
Jonathon Highman	1st
David Lehrer	1st
Deborah Levene	5th
Justin Levene	6th
Deborah Michaels	2nd
Bushey Newsletter	3rd
Emma Saunders	4th
Adam Soames	2nd

I N F O R M A T I O N

Yizkor:

The Memorial Service for the Departed will be said on Yom Kippur and Shemini Atzereth (27th September) immediately after the Reading of the Law.

Simchat Torah:

Please note that the timetable issued showing the afternoon and evening service commencing at 7.50 p.m. should be 7.00 p.m.

Ladies Guild:

Barbara Kaye, would like to hear from any lady who is interested in joining the guild. Meetings are held monthly and visits, functions, etc., are arranged regularly.

Shabbat:

Regular Friday night and Shabbat morning services are held in the Synagogue. The honorary officers will be pleased to see you any time.

Prize Quiz Competitions:

In issue number 19 of the newsletter we announced the details of a prize quiz. Allan Conway, who set the questions, has asked us to point out that if anyone found it impossible to answer all the questions, entries should still be submitted with as many answers as can be obtained. Prizes will be awarded to entries with the most correct answers. Send them to 20, Broadfield Court, Bushey Heath, WD2 1JB.

Newsletter:

Contributions such as crosswords, stories, recipes, cartoons and feature articles should be sent to Ronald Cole or Colin Fink.

N A M E S A N D N U M B E R S

HONORARY OFFICERS	
Johnny Back	950 1327
Ronald Cole	950 3566
David Shulman	950 6060
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	
CO-CHAIRMAN	
Paul Epstein	950 5217
Godfrey Kaye	
SOCIAL CALENDAR	
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN	
Geoffrey Silver	92 34064
SYNAGOGUE SECRETARY	
Susan Sperber	950 7340
(Office open Sunday 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.)	
FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE	
CHAIRMAN	
Harvey Burton	950 4209
LADIES GUILD	
CHAIRMAN	
Barbara Kaye	
YOUTH AND EDUCATION	
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN	
Brian Silverman	950 5486
NEWSLETTER CO-EDITORS	
Ronald Cole	950 3566
Colin Fink	



**BUSHEY ISRAEL FUND**

Invite you to a

**QUIZ SUPPER**

Sunday 19th. October at 8.00p.m.

"Knox Cottage"

4 Prowse Avenue Bushey Heath



Why do we observe Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur?  
To comply with the commandments of the Torah.

In reference to Rosh Hashanah, the Torah states :-

"In the seventh month on the first day of the month, shall be a solemn rest unto you a memorial proclaimed with the blast of horns, a Holy convocation. You shall do no manner of servile work and you shall bring an offering made by fire unto the Lord." (Leviticus 23: 23-25).

In reference to Yom Kippur, the Torah states :-

"And the Lord spoke unto Moses saying : How be it on the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement; there shall be a Holy convocation unto you and you shall afflict your souls; and you shall bring an offering made by fire unto the Lord and you shall do no manner of work in that same day for it is the Day of Atonement to make Atonement for you before the Lord our God. For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from his people. And whatsoever soul it be that doeth no manner of work in that day, that soul will not depart from among his people. You shall do no manner of work; it is a statute forever throughout your generation in all your dwellings. It shall be unto you a Sabbath of solemn rest and you shall afflict your souls; in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall you keep your Sabbath. (Leviticus 23: 26-32).

### The Period of Repentance

A period commencing with Rosh Chodesh Ellul to Yom Kippur is of special significance for Repentance since Moses ascended Mount Sinai at Rosh Chodesh Ellul to receive the second tablets of the Law stayed for forty days and descended on the tenth day of Tishri being Yom Kippur.

### The Shofar

The significance of the sound of the Shofar, as well as complying with a positive commandment of the Torah, serves to arouse the people to Repentance on the basis of the scriptural reference in Amos 3:6 "shall the horn be blown in a city and the people not tremble?"

The Shofar is not blown on Shabbat since it is prohibited to carry on the Holy Shabbat and if it were to be blown, one may be tempted to carry the Shofar to and from the place of its use.

### Visit to the Grounds

It is the custom to visit the grounds during this period of Repentance :

1. So that the merits of our ancestors be expressed to stand them in good stead on the Day of Judgement for the scriptures state that repentance applies to the living as well as to the dead.
2. That our ancestors may be able to speak on our behalf in the Holy Court
3. To humble ourselves for true repentance.

Thus the visit to the grounds is in respect of deceased parents as well as departed pious Jews.

Why are two days observed for Rosh Hashanah?

Rosh Hashanah is observed for two days throughout the world including Israel and the Palastine Talmud states that the observance of Rosh Hashanah for two days was ordained by the early prophets.

It is based historically on the fact that the beginning of each Jewish month was fixed by observance of the new moon. On the twenty-ninth day of every month witnesses would observe when the crescent of the new moon appeared and would bring their testimony to the Priestly Court and then to the Sanhedrin at Jerusalem. As soon as the new moon was officially announced by the President of the Sanhedrin communities in outlying sections of Palestine and Babylonia were so informed by means of fire signals progressively kindled from mountain to mountain. When the Samaritans flared such signals at the wrong times in order to confuse the people regarding the exact day of the holiday, the authorities adopted the practice of sending messengers to the outlying communities to inform them of the precise day of the new month. The messengers could not reach the outlying Babylonia communities and some regions of Palestine in time, hence such communities being in doubt as to whether the new moon was to be observed on the one day or the next observed two days to avoid the possible violation of a biblically prescribed holiday.

Our Rabbis teach us that the two days are to be considered as one long day and each of the days is therefore of equal significance.

In view of this, questions were raised as to whether it is proper to recite the blessing Sheheheyanu in the Kiddush on the second day and likewise in the kindling of the candles.

To obviate this difficulty it was advised to wear a new garment or eat a new seasonal fruit so that the blessing would relate equally to these but even if there is nothing new, the blessing should nevertheless be recited.

### Tashlich

Based on the verse "and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depth of the sea" Micah 17:19

This custom is observed on the first day of Rosh Hashanah unless it is the Shabbat in which case it is observed on the second day and this is also the case if one has no time to observe it on the first day.

Where possible, one should go to the sea or river, where there are fish, and shake ones clothes three times.

### Observance of symbols as omens for a good year

1. It is customary to dip in honey a portion of the challah over which we have said Hamotzi and to say the words "may it be thy will to renew for us a happy and pleasant year" after eating a piece the size of an olive.
2. It is customary to dip a piece of sweet apple in honey and say the Benediction "Bore Peri Haetz" and also repeat the above.

The above custom is observed up to and including the Festival of Succot.

## A Parable for Rosh Hashanah

A naive villager born and bred in an obscure rural environment came to a big city for the first time and obtained lodging at an inn. Awakened in the middle of the night by the beating of drums he enquired drowsily "what is this all about?" Informed that a fire had broken out and that the drum beating was the city's fire alarm, he turned over and went back to sleep.

On his return home, he reported to the village authorities: "They have a wonderful system in the big city; when a fire breaks out, the people beat their drums and before long the fire burns out." All excited they ordered a supply of drums and distributed them to the population. When a fire broke out later there was a deafening explosion of beating of drums and while the people waited expectantly for the flames to subside, a number of their homes had burned to the ground. A sophisticated visitor passing through that village, when told the reason for the ear-splitting din derided the simplistic natives "idiots, do you think a fire could be put out by beating drums? They only sound an alarm for the people to wake up and take measures to extinguish the fire."

In the same way, the Maggid of Dubno points out that beating the breast during the Al Het, raising our voices during worship and playing the Shofar will not put out the fires of sin and evil that burn in us. They are only an alarm, a warning to wake us and resort to Heshbon Hanefesh (soul-searching) so that we may merit the favour of God.

### Constant Exercise

A man who uses his legs only three times a year will find that he cannot walk properly even then, for his muscles will waste for lack of exercise. Similarly, he who prays only on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur may find his prayers limping even on these days. Prayer requires constant exercise to be effective (*Immanuel Jakobovits*).

### Preparing for Prayer

No-one should stand up to say the *tefillah* (*Amidah*) other than in a thoughtful mood. The pious men of old used to wait an hour before they prayed so that they might direct their heart toward God. Even if a King greets a man saying the *tefillah*, he may not return the greeting; and even if a snake was twisted around his heel he may not interrupt his prayer (*Mishnah Berachot* 5: 1).

### The Mood of Prayer

Rise to recite the prayers not in a mood of misery, indolence, laughter, chatter, frivolity or idle talk, but only in a mood of joyous piety . . . When you pray, know before whom you stand (*Berachot* 28b, 31a).

### Talking in Synagogue

Woe to him who carries on conversation in the Synagogue. He shows that he does not belong there; he belittles the faith; he has no share in the God of Israel (*Zohar*).

### White — Not Black

On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, Jews do not appear depressed and in dark clothes, but joyous, dressed in festive white, as a mark of a cheerful and confident spirit (*Jerus. Talmud, Rosh Hashanah* 1: 3).

### What the Shofar Notes mean

Each of the four sounds blown on the Shofar, *Tekiah, Shevarim, Teruah, Tekiah*, stands for a sound felt in the human heart.

TEKIAH, a long, drawn-out blast, is a call to conscience: "wake up to your duty!"

SHEVARIM, three broken sounds, resembles the sigh of realisation that we have strayed from the right path.

TERUAH, nine short, staccato notes, reflects our weeping and sobbing, which express remorse and regret.

And the final TEKIAH comes as an "all-clear", to say: "You have realised you have done wrong, and have repented of your sin. Now go ahead, and be confident that God will forgive!"

### Answers to Quiz:

1. Nissan 15th.
2. Giving of the 10 Commandments.
3. Horse - not Kosher.
4. 613.
5. Saul.
6. 39
7. Abraham.
8. 40.
9. At the termination of Shabbat.
10. Batmitzvah.