

Shabbat, 26th February 2022 / 25th Adar 1, 5782 Vayakhel / Shabbat Mevarachim / Parshat Shekalim

Service Times	
Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat	5.15 pm
Shacharit	9.30 am
Kiddush after the service	
Shabbat Ends	6.22 pm
No Mincha or Ma'ariv Service	-
Sunday – Mincha/Ma'ariv at Ilford Federation, 2A Clarence Ave, Ilford, IG2 6JH @ 5.15pm	
Next Friday: Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat takes place at 5.30pm.	
Booking is now open for Kabbalat Shabbat on Friday, 4th March at 5.30pm, and for Shabbat Pel	kudei on 5 <sup>th</sup>
March at 9.30am. Bookings will close at 6pm on Wednesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> March.	

We are open for <u>Shacharit</u> services, On Sunday at 8.15am, Monday at 7.05am, Tuesday at 7.15am, Wednesday at 7.15am, Thursday at 7am and Friday at 7am. Ma'ariv on Monday - Thursday at 7.30pm.

For <u>Kabbalat Shabbat</u>, <u>Shabbat</u>, <u>Shacharit</u> and <u>Ma'ariv</u> services; members with internet access should be booking in online via the United Synagogue Website using the following link: <u>https://myus.theus.org.uk/events</u>. select Cranbrook United Synagogue and tick Prayer Services. If you are not **able** to book online, then please contact the Shul office on 020 8629 2780 to book in for the services you wish to attend.



Today we bless the forthcoming month of Adar Sheni. Rosh Chodesh is this coming **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** and **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March** (B'Yom Chamishi Uv'Yom Shishi). Shacharit will be at **7 am** on both days.

The Molad - earliest sighting of the new moon in Jerusalem - is on Thursday 4th March at 3.51am and 17 chalakim.

## **Torah Reading**

Leyning: Vayakhel Sefer Shemot: 35:1-38:20 Artscroll p 516, Hertz p 373, Cohen/Soncino p 573 Maftir: (Shemot 30:11-16) A: p 484, H: p 352, C: p 540 Haftorah: II Kings 12:1 - 12:17 Artscroll p 1213, Hertz p 993, Cohen/Soncino p 1191

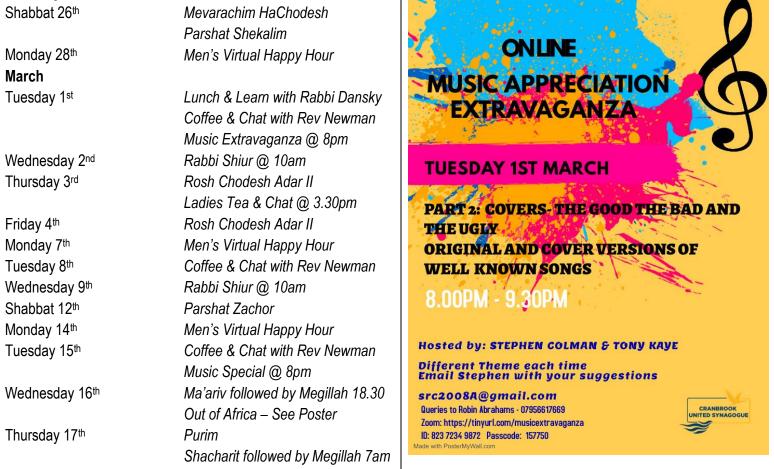
Rabbi Steven Dansky

Simon Stern

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. Please call the shul office for more information. Children's Service: 10.30am
Regular Weekday Services in the Main Synagogue
Shacharit: Sunday & Public Holidays at 8.15am.
Shacharit: Monday and Thursday at 7.05am.
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at 7.15am.
Rosh Chodesh Shacharit: Monday to Friday at 7am; Sunday at 8am.
Ma'ariv: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at 7.30pm.

### Dates for the Diary

#### February



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

Sandra Angel, Cyril Berkeley, Henry Berman, Lilian Black, Sheila Brand, Jacqueline Brett, Estelle Brill, Debroy Caine, Frederick Cohen, Barbara Cohen, Sharon Collins, Hetty Conway, Elaine Duque, Ian Fenton, David Franklyn, Sinclair Frydland, Helen Gilles, Barrie Gold, Jonathan Gold, Nathan Gold, Shirley Gold, Barbara Gordon, Sandra Harris, Myrtle Holman, Derek Hooker, Michael Jason, Rosalind Johnstone, Carol Lacome, David Lee, Leonard Lewis, Marilyn Mandel, Stephen Mendel, Stephen Messias, Shirley Millar, Rhona Morris, Yaffa Nathan, Diana Neslen, Marilyn Nieman, Stanley Oberman, Betty Pam, Bernice Phillips, Jeffrey Pinkus, Daniel Rose, Miriam Rosenberg, Noreen Salador, Neil Sapler, Susan Sapler, Barbara Seider-Benson, Michelle Smith, Rita Stevens, Helen Walker, Josephine Wayne, Norman Whyte and Sharon Wigul.



20th March 2022	Roma Ingram	Waltham Abbey	Noon	
Mother of Jonathan	Ingram, Sister of Betty	Levine		
27th March 2022	Sandra Scott	Waltham Abbey	1.00pm	
Wife of Alan Scott		· · ·		
3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2022	Susan Bass	Waltham Abbey	11am	
Mother of Gillian Fel	dman	· · ·		
3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2022	Gladys Berg	Waltham Abbey	1.00pm	
Mother of Gill Futche	er	· · ·		
3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2022	Monty Shoben	Waltham Abbey	3.30pm	
Father of Tracey Ros	se	· · ·		

Mincha: Monday – Thursday at Chabad Gants Hill at 1.30pm

# News and Views

This week's Shabbat starts off a series of special Torah readings and Haftorahs lasting until before Pesach called "*the 4 parshiot*". This week we start off with Parashat Shekalim, in which we read about the half-shekel which was donated towards the building of the Mishkan. It is followed by Parashat Zachor dealing with the horrendous attack of Amalek on the Jewish people as they left Egypt. The third is called Parashat Parah, which involves the laws of the red heifer... Finally, the last Parasha is called Parashat Hachodesh, which deals with the commandment of the new moon, as well as the requirement of the pascal lamb for first night Pesach.



Three out of these four special Shabbat readings have good reasons for their being

read during this time. We read about Amalek close to Purim time, because Haman was a descendent of Amalek, and, just like Amalek, wanted to destroy the Jews. We therefore read the portion of Zachor.

The same is true of Parashat Parah. Parashat Parah was read before the festival of Pesach to remind everyone that if they wanted to take part in eating the pascal lamb, that they had to ensure that they were first ritually pure. Since the most stringent of impurities relate to touching or being in contact with a dead person, the reading of the red heifer was mandated. This was because the dust of the red heifer was able to make those who were ritually impure, pure.

The last Parasha, Parashat Hachodesh was read directly before Pesach, and that too makes complete sense, as it deals with the laws of the pascal lamb which was to be consumed on the first night of Pesach.

This leaves us with the conundrum of why we read the laws of the half shekel this week. What is its meaning and what is its connection to its time of the year?

Our sages explain (OC 685) that it was during this time of year that the Jewish people gave half a shekel of silver once a year towards paying for total annual cost of the daily sacrifice. The daily sacrifice was not donated by any single person. It is impossible to know which Jew bought what part of the sacrifice with his half shekel. It could therefore be said that each Jew had an infinitesimal [portion of each sacrifice brought every day.



This was a truly beautiful thing to do, because it showed that every Jew, no matter how involved, no matter how religious or wealthy was a part of the daily services in the temple. Even if you were thousands of miles away, you were still connected through your donation and support.

Perhaps this teaches us that when we donate money towards the community, we all have a connection, and we all have a place with the daily ongoing services of the

community. Even if we are unable to attend Shul on a regular basis, we can have a daily connection to the community through our support and donations.

Shabbat Shalom - Rabbi Steven, Siobhan, Maya, and Talia.

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