



CRANBROOK NEWS

22 Beehive Lane ● 020 8629 2780



Shabbat, 13th January 2024 / 3rd Shevat 5784
Va'era

Service Times

Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat

4.01pm

Shacharit followed by Kiddush

9.30am

Mincha follows Kiddush

after 12.30pm

No Ma'ariv service

Shabbat Ends

5.10pm

Next Friday: Mincha followed followed by Kabbalat Shabbat at **4.12pm**



Brian & Gloria Marks on their Blue Sapphire (65th) Wedding Anniversary.

Howard & Roma Goldsmith on their Blue Sapphire (65th) Wedding Anniversary.

Lauren & Michel Herst on their Coral (35th) Wedding Anniversary.

Ruth Berg, Stacey Bourne, Deanna Klein, Linda Martin, Barbara Mervish, Sharon Portnoy and Raisa Yufit on their respective birthdays.

The shul website is now password protected please e-mail webmaster@cranbrooksynagogue.org.uk or WhatsApp 07956 617669 to get the password.

Torah Reading

Leyning: Va'era

Sefer: Shemot 6:2 - 9:35

Rabbi Steven Dansky

Artscroll p 318, Cohen p 351, Hertz p 233

Haftorah: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

Simon Schlazer

Artscroll p 1149, Cohen p 372, Hertz p 244



This week's Cranbrook News is kindly sponsored by Stanley Levy to celebrate the 80th birthday of his wife Lesley.

Children's Service: 10.30am
Regular Weekday Services: Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday at **Ilford Federation Synagogue;** Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at **Cranbrook United Synagogue.**
Shacharit: Sunday & Public Holidays at **8.30am.**
Shacharit: Monday & Thursday at **7.20am.** Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at **7.30am.**
Rosh Chodesh Shacharit: Sunday at **8.30am;** Monday to Friday at **7.10am.**
Mincha: Monday to Thursday at 1.30pm at **Chabad Gants Hill**
Mincha: Sunday at 4.00pm; Ma'ariv: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at **7.30pm.**

Dates for the Diary

January		
Wednesday 17 th	@ 10am	<i>Rabbi Dansky Weekly Shiur</i>
Monday 22 nd	@12.30pm	<i>Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Dansky</i>
Tuesday 23 rd	@ 8pm	<i>Music Extravaganza Night</i>
Wednesday 24 th	@ 10am	<i>Rabbi Dansky Weekly Shiur</i>
Thursday 25 th		<i>Tu B'Shevat</i>
Shabbat 27 th		<i>Shabbat Shirah</i>
Wednesday 31 st	@ 10am	<i>Rabbi Dansky Weekly Shiur</i>
February		
Shabbat 3 rd		<i>Mevarachim Hachodesh 10 Commandments</i>
Monday 5 th	@12.30pm	<i>Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Dansky</i>
Wednesday 7 th	@10am	<i>Rabbi Dansky Weekly Shiur</i>
Friday 9 th		<i>Rosh Chodesh Adar 1</i>
Shabbat 10 th		<i>Rosh Chodesh Adar 1</i>
Wednesday 14 th	@10am	<i>Rabbi Dansky Weekly Shiur</i>
Monday 19 th	@12.30pm	<i>Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Dansky</i>
Tuesday 20 th	@ 8pm	<i>Music Extravaganza Night</i>
Wednesday 21 st	@10am	<i>Rabbi Dansky Weekly Shiur</i>

Lunch & Learn



Please call or e-mail the Office to book for **Monday, 22nd January** by **2pm** on **Thursday, 18th January.**

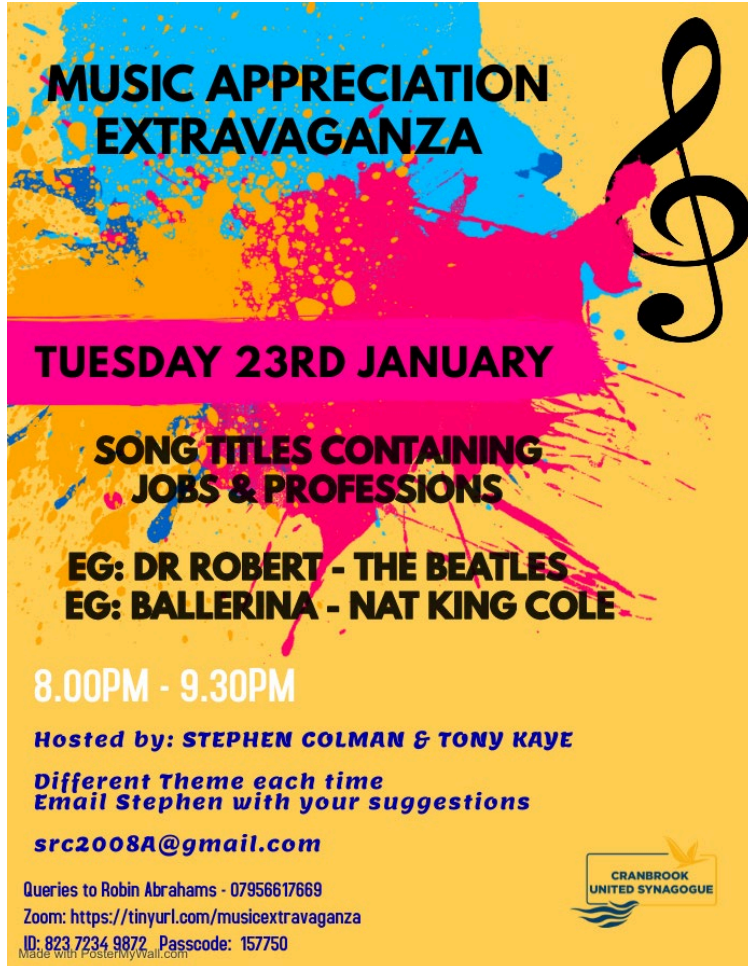
Call 020 8629 2780 or e-mail admin@cranbrooksynagogue.org.uk

We wish the following members, who have Yahrzeit in the coming week, a long life: -

Vera Aarons, Karla Austin, Frank Baum, Ruth Berg, Cynthia Berman, Sidney Berman, Harvey Bick, Lilian Black, Stewart Block, Marsha Bloom, Rayna Bowman, Derek Brent, Elaine Chaplin, Blanche Charach, Hetty Conway, Susan Crammer, Michael Darwin, Mildred Davies, Shirley Davis-Merrian, Carol Emden, Deborah Epstein, Derek Ettinger, Sandra Filek, Elena Goldstein, Raynor Gordon, Renee Graham, Edna Graham, Eunice Green, Jane Greenberg, Barbara Grossman, Victoria Joffe, Alan Kaye, Rosalind Kaye, Alan Kaye, Raymond Kennard, Shirley Kravitz, Martin Lander, Susan Lasky, Shirley Leach, Andrea Lester, Michael Levene, Alma Levene, Norma Levinson, Howard Lewis, Alan Lipczer, Estelle Luton, Eleanor Lyndon, Ruth Lyndon, Solomon Macatonia, Anita Macatonia, Helena Marco, Barbara Martin, Jan Meyer, David Michaels, Rev Gary Newman, June Noah, Mandie Preston, Lawrence Regan, Andrew Rein, David Rein, Leila Rome, Jane Sampson, Jeffrey Scott, Zena Shayer, Harvey Sheere, Geoffrey Stean, Rita Stedman, Rita Stevens, June Stevens, Betty Turner, Harvey Weinfass, Helena Weston and Ruth Wolfe.

Music Appreciation Extravaganza

Tuesday 23rd January at 8pm



MUSIC APPRECIATION EXTRAVAGANZA

TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY

SONG TITLES CONTAINING JOBS & PROFESSIONS

EG: DR ROBERT - THE BEATLES
EG: BALLERINA - NAT KING COLE

8.00PM - 9.30PM


Hosted by: **STEPHEN COLMAN & TONY KAYE**

Different Theme each time
Email Stephen with your suggestions

src2008A@gmail.com

Queries to Robin Abrahams - 07956617669
Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/musicextravaganza>
ID: 823 7234 9872 Passcode: 157750

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Cranbrook United Synagogue held a Melava Malka on Motzei Shabbat, 6th January 2024 with guest of honour Chief Rabbi Sir Ephraim Mirvis.

A great evening was had by all.

Our thanks go Rabbi Dansky, Philip and Stephanie Powell, Claire Barzilai, Jeff Faber, Yaffa Nathan, Joanne Green, Joyce, and David Halperin & everyone else who helped to make the evening successful.

Condolences to: The family of Jessie Cherkoff.

Forthcoming stone-settings

28th January 2024	Vera Miller	Waltham Abbey	Noon
Mother of Wendy Skolnick			
17th March 2024	Ivor Miller	Waltham Abbey	11.00am
Husband of Anita Miller			
17th March 2024	Martin Mercer	Waltham Abbey	11.30am
Father of Michael Mercer			
17th March 2024	Gabriel Shine	Waltham Abbey	Noon
Husband of Shirley Shine			

News and Views

The second plague that hit the Egyptians was the plague of frogs. The Torah testifies to the fact that the frogs went absolutely everywhere - even jumping inside people's stomachs and sacrificing their froggy lives in the ovens. The Torah tells us that: "*the Frog arose*". This seems to be incorrect. It wasn't one frog, it was many many frogs that came out of the Nile River.

There are various answers provided to this question. The first is that the frog rose up in a swarm, and, therefore, it was one phenomenon. The Talmud, however, provides an interesting interpretation. The Talmud relates that in fact, one large frog did come out of the Nile River. The Egyptians saw it, and started hitting it, hoping that the frogs would return to their froggy homes in the river. However, as soon as they started hitting the frog, it started to mutate and multiply, increasing every single time the Egyptians hit the frogs until it became an unstoppable croak or army of frogs.

While this novel interpretation serves to solve the grammar-related issues of the verse, its overall meaning seems to lack purpose. What does this tell us about our lives? The Torah itself is eternal and has lessons which are eternal. What sort of eternal lessons are we supposed to learn from this grammatical croak?

In the commentaries the plague of frogs was there to prove to Pharaoh that G-d existed in such a clear way that it would be impossible to refute. One huge frog arising from the Nile should have been incredibly impressive. What would you do if you saw a frog the size of your house hopping towards you? Surely you would stop and think to yourself - it's a miracle!



The Egyptians were so set in their mind about the way things worked that when they were faced with a reality which differed from their vision, they hit it in the hopes that it would go away. Not only did it not go away, it produced hundreds and thousands of frogs, and this plague became their new reality.

What does that mean to us? Sometimes we are faced with frog situations in our everyday lives. We are being presented with a reality and that reality so completely contradicts our perceptions about what was or what should be. Unfortunately, the most common response is to keep knocking against the reality in the hope that that reality will change, forcing reality to bend to our perception.

They say that the definition of insanity is doing something again and again hoping for a different result. Perhaps we need to look into our lives and examine what we are hitting our heads against, fighting against rather than accepting. Perhaps if we did this we would live saner, happier lives.

I wish you all a good Shabbos.

Rabbi Steven, Siobhan, Maya and Talia Dansky.