

### Rabbi's Discussions

#### What's bothering Rashi?

Come and discover Rashi's amazing insights into the weekly Parasha. Join in an interactive and stimulating discussion into the legendary Torah commentator led by Rabbi Bar every Thursday evening at the Shul after the evening service, at approximately 8:15pm. Men and women welcome.

#### Dirshu Bahalacha - Halacha Shiur on the Laws of Chanukah

Have you ever wanted to deepen your knowledge of Halacha - Jewish Law or to fully understand the whys behind contemporary Jewish practices. Join in in our lively and interactive Shiur, given by Rabbi Bar, which takes place on Monday and Thursday 30 min before the evening service.

Men and women welcome.

#### Saying Kaddish in Shul?

Please ensure you bring at least **Two relatives or friends** to help with the Minyan.

**We wish the following members "Long Life" for their Yahrzeits commencing the evening before:**

**Shabbat – 20 Dec/28 Kislev:** Mr Michael Konyan, Mrs Renee Crow, Mrs Roberta Rose, Mrs Zena Rose, Mr Stephen Rosenthal, Mrs Miriam Litman

**Sunday – 21 Dec/29 Kislev:** Mrs Francine Green, Mr Larry Lisner, Ms Maralyn Lisner, Mrs Joan Pearl, Mr Alan Shalet, Mrs Sylvia Vandermolen, Mr Michael Vandermolen, Mrs Frances Witzenzfeld, Mr Alan Witzenzfeld

**Monday – 22 Dec/30 Kislev:** Mrs Allison Lester, Mr Eric Harris, Mrs Gertrude Essex, Mr Murray Miller, Mrs Sheila Schwartz, Mrs Sandra Royston

**Tuesday – 23 Dec/1 Teveth:** Dr Arnold Azulay, Mrs Ann Wine

**Wednesday – 24 Dec/2 Teveth:** Mr Robert Abrahams, Mr Stephen Burstin., Mrs Moira Myers, Mrs Lilian Stender, Mr Simon Luton, Mr Melvyn Peters, Mr Harvey Sperber, Mr Ray Waterman

**Thursday – 25 Dec/3 Teveth:** Mrs Betty Lesley, Mrs Rita Cabb, Mrs Marion Jones, Mr Allan Greenstein, Mrs Minn Rose, Mr Zvi Klemer, Mr Stanley Rubins, Mrs Jeanette Cohen, Mrs Josephine Muslin

**Friday – 26 Dec/4 Teveth:** Ms Janet Gershlick, Mrs Pat David, Mrs Netta Harper,

<b>Monday Club-Talmud Torah</b> Call Maurice 01702 351845	<b>SEED - Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec</b> 8.45pm in Beth Hamedrash	<b>Toddler Group - Tuesday</b> Call Karen 07887 847059
<b>connect@southend-Thurs Talmud Torah</b> Call Chris Sternshine 334655 or <a href="mailto:csternshine@jcare.org">csternshine@jcare.org</a>	<b>VISITING THE SICK</b> email <a href="mailto:swhcgm@btconnect.com">swhcgm@btconnect.com</a> or <a href="mailto:leonardshulton@live.com">leonardshulton@live.com</a> or call Janice 07752874065 or Shul Office 01702 344900	<b>Cemetery Opening Times</b> Winter: Sunday – Friday 10am – 3pm GMT Summer: Sunday – Friday 10am – 4pm BST
<b>Raymond House Shabbat</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Jan - 10.15am</b> Call Derek Silverstone 01702 616153	<b>Cheder every Tuesday</b> 4.45pm to 6.15pm Email <a href="mailto:Cheder.SWHC@hotmail.co.uk">Cheder.SWHC@hotmail.co.uk</a> Refreshments served 4.30pm	<b>SJYC <a href="mailto:sjycbuzz@hotmail.com">sjycbuzz@hotmail.com</a></b> 5–11yrs Thurs 4.30pm–6.30pm Call Debbie Linden 07912 259784 <b>Senior Youth Club</b> Call Barry Jacobs 07876 685826
<b>J.A.C.S. - Every Wed</b> Call Allan Goldstein 01268 771978 for more info	<b>Pop In - Tues 13 Jan</b> Talmud Torah 2pm – 4pm	<b>To announce your event on the Shul website</b> email <a href="mailto:stan.stanrob@gmail.com">stan.stanrob@gmail.com</a>

### The Shop see separate flyer for Chanukah opening times

Usual opening hours:- Mondays 12noon to 3pm Cash Purchases Only

Thursdays 10.00am – 4.30pm: Fridays 9.00am – 12.30pm : Sundays 9.30am – 11.30am

Phone 01702 430307 (only during opening hours)

For orders please email: [alanmarkovitch@hotmail.com](mailto:alanmarkovitch@hotmail.com) or leave a message on 07956 597271

28 Kislev 5775 - 20 Dec 2014 ב"מ"ד

**swhc**  
southend & westcliff  
hebrew congregation

Email: [swhc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:swhc@hotmail.co.uk) Tel: 01702 344900 Website: [www.swhc.org.uk](http://www.swhc.org.uk)

Rabbi: **Rabbi Binyamin Bar**

Wardens: **Geoffrey Pepper & Stanley Robinson**

### **Shabbat Miktetz Chanukah Services**

Friday Chanukah candle lighting in the Shul	3.20pm
Shabbat begins	3.30pm
Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat	3.30pm

Shacharit	9.15am
Children's Service with Yael	11.00am
Followed by Kiddush - Mincha will follow straight after.	

Shabbat ends	4.50pm
Ma'ariv	5.10pm

### Service Times Weekdays

#### Sunday

Shacharit	8.30am	Ma'ariv	6.45pm
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#### Monday & Tuesday (Rosh Chodesh)

Shacharit	8.00am	Ma'ariv	8.00pm
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#### Wednesday - Thursday

Shacharit	8.30am	Ma'ariv	6.00pm
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#### Next Friday – 26 Dec

Shacharit	8.30am	Service	3.35pm
Shabbat begins			3.34pm

This week's leaflet is sponsored anonymously



The Shul Office will be closed on

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December and Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January.

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### Chanukah Gelt

#### 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

### Thank You

Jennifer & Geoffrey Pepper would like to thank everyone for their cards, good wishes & gifts on Geoffrey’s recent special birthday.

### We wish a hearty Mazeltov to:

Ray & Irene Turner on the birth of their 6<sup>th</sup> granddaughter, Orly Eliana  
 Julie Franks on the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
 Betty Nathan on the occasion of her 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
 Marcelle & Dennis Baum on the occasion of their 35<sup>th</sup> (Coral) Wedding Anniversary

### PUBLIC MENORAH LIGHTING TIMES - Cliffs Pavilion

#### Daily Menorah Lighting Times – Donuts Galore!!

Fri	19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3.00pm
Sat	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.00pm
Sun	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	4.30pm
Mon	22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	7.30pm
Tues	23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	7.30pm – Gala Night



### Children's Chanukah Party - Talmud Torah - Motzaei Shabbat 20<sup>th</sup> Dec

There will be a Children's Chanukah party at 6.30pm after the menorah lighting at the Cliffs Pavilion.

### Chanukah Magic Evening - Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Dec - 7.00pm for 7.30pm

In the Company of Rav Geoffrey Shisler & others. Shul Hall  
 Donation £20.00. **SOLD OUT**



### CHANGE OF SERVICE TIMES

**Wednesday 24th December up to and including Sunday 4th January 2015** the morning service will be **8.30 am instead of 8.00 am.**

**Wednesday 24th December up to & including Sunday 4th January 2015, the evening service will be at 6.00pm every evening** (other than on Friday afternoon and Saturday evening etc) with the exception of Fast of Teveth.

**Fast of Teveth – commences 6.13am ends at 4.59pm**  
**Service Times** Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Jan – Shacharit 8.30am - Mincha/Ma'ariv 3.30pm

**Monday 5th January 2015, the evening service weekday time will revert back to 8.00pm other than on Sunday which will at 6.00pm every Sunday**

**Monday 5th January 2015, the morning service will revert back to 8.00am, other than on Sunday which remains at 8.30am.**

### Future Dates for your Diary

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Jan – Jewish Learning Southend – Shul Hall  
 Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Jan – Jewish Women’s Circle  
 Tues 27<sup>th</sup> Jan – Holocaust Memorial Day & Tree Planting  
 Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb - AID Society Quiz – Shul Hall

### The Shop

Please note that fresh meat & chicken will not be available between 25<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015 due to annual closure of suppliers.