

THE DRUM

KEEPING YOU IN STEP WITH THE BEAT OF OUR COMMUNITY



24 MARCHESHVAN 5782

פ' חיי שרה (מברכין)

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FROM THE RABBINIC TEAM: BUYING THE CAVE OF MACHPELAH



The parashah opens with the death of Sarah. Avraham negotiates with the Chitites for a burial plot and eventually purchases the Cave of Machpelah. The dialogue with the Chitites, and then Ephron, a local chieftain, starts with them offering it to Avraham as

a gift, but eventually moves to an agreement for 400 silver shekalim in usable currency, apparently, an exorbitant sum.

While the commentators tend to cast Ephron as a rogue, the text does suggest that Avraham wanted to pay for the Cave, rather than receiving it for free. The key to understanding this lies in Avraham's speech to the Chitites, 'He [Ephron] should give to me the Cave of Machpelah – which is his – that is at the edge of his field; he should give it to me for its full value in your midst as a burial holding' (BeReishit 23:9). The phrase 'burial holding' first appears in verse 4, where Rashbam comments, 'allow me to acquire land here and it should be acceptable to you, the dwellers in the town, to allow me to bury there the dead from my family, as a burial holding can only exist by the will of all the townsfolk'.

I suggest that Avraham realised that unless he paid a full (or even excessive) price for the land, his family's title in perpetuity and their right to bury their dead there could always be questioned. This may be why the Torah devotes an entire chapter to a subject that could otherwise have been covered in a few verses.

RABBI DR HARVEY BELOVSKI

שבת שלום

Candles: 4.39pm - 5.24pm
Minchah & Kabbalat Shabbat: 5.30pm

Shabbat morning: 9.15am
Welcome to guest baal tefillah Yossi Fachler

Minchah: 5.14pm, followed by Rabbi Moishe Schmah's guest shiur; Ma'ariv when Shabbat ends: 6.26pm

BST ends early Sunday morning

WEEKDAY SERVICES

שחרית

Sun @ 8.30am; Mon & Thu @ 7.15am; Tue & Wed @ 7.25am; Fri (Rosh Chodesh) @ 7.00am

מנחה & מעריב

Sun-Thu @ 4.15pm

Mazal Tov!

TO RABBI SAM AND REBBETZIN DR HADASSAH
ON THE BIRTH OF A SON

Happy Birthday!

· AARON GAYNOR · DOROTHY BAKER
· RAPHAEL OWLIAEI · LIORA GIESSING

LEARN WITH US

SHABBAT 30TH OCTOBER - FOLLOWING MINCHAH AT 5.15PM

Guest shiur with Rabbi Moishe Schmahl

MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER - 8.00PM

Adrian Jacobs Shiur Gemara Shiur on Tractate Shabbat
Delivered by Zoom

TUESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER - 8.00PM

RHB in conversation with Sally Berkovic
Delivered by Zoom

Coming soon

IN ZOOM CONVERSATION WITH RHB (8.00PM)

November 9th: Canon Dr Giles Fraser
November 16th: Dr Blima Marcus

Youth and Children

OUR YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES
RUN EVERY SHABBAT AND YOM TOV MORNING:

- **YOUTH** (Y7 plus), upstairs in the nursery, 10:30
- **PRE-YOUTH** (Y5 & Y6), outside under the Rimon shelter, 11am
- **CHILDREN** (Reception-Y4), Rimon hall, 11am
- **TODDLERS** (Pre-school and below), Rimon reception playground, 11am

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YOUTH
ACTIVITIES, PLEASE CONTACT OUR YOUTH
DIRECTORS, TOVA AND SHIRA:
YOUTH@GGSHUL.ORG.UK

AWFUL KIDS' JOKES

- Visited the national Helium Museum... I really can't speak highly enough about the place!
- Two clowns got divorced. They couldn't agree on who had the rights to their props. Custardy battle.
- I've had a hard time figuring out why I don't consider cottage cheese truly "cheese". But it's just a curd to me.

USEFUL CONTACTS

OFFICE: 020 8455 2460; office@ggshul.org.uk

TWITTER: @ggshul

RABBI: 020 8458 8824 · rabbi@ggshul.org.uk ·
www.rabbibelovski.co.uk

RABBI SAM FROMSON:

07432 505051 · rabbifromson@ggshul.org.uk

HADASSAH FROMSON:

07415 219079 · hadassah@ggshul.org.uk

CARE LINE: 07415 006072

GEMACH FUND: gemach@ggshul.org.uk

Shul office hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
9.30am - 3.00pm; Tuesday 9.30am - 1pm

GGSh Executive

Our community is run by volunteers – do get in touch and get involved. Our Women's Officers are available for support on saying kaddish and observing yahrzeits and our Gabbaim can answer any questions on services.

Chair: Joel Clark, chair@ggshul.org.uk

Financial Representative: Adam Berlin, adam@ggshul.org.uk

Women's Officers: Victoria White, victoria@ggshul.org.uk;
Caroline Levey, caroline@ggshul.org.uk

Gabbaim: Moishe Engel, moishe@ggshul.org.uk;
Gabriel Vaisbrot, gabriel@ggshul.org.uk

Check out our brand new website

WWW.GOLDERSGREENSHUL.ORG.UK

MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS ARE WARMLY INVITED TO ATTEND ALL OF OUR ONLINE EVENTS,
REGARDLESS OF LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE